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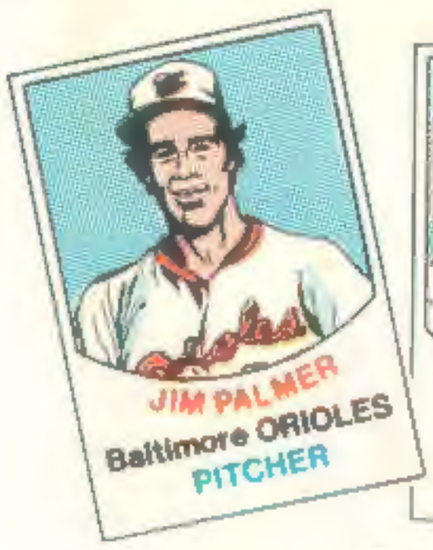

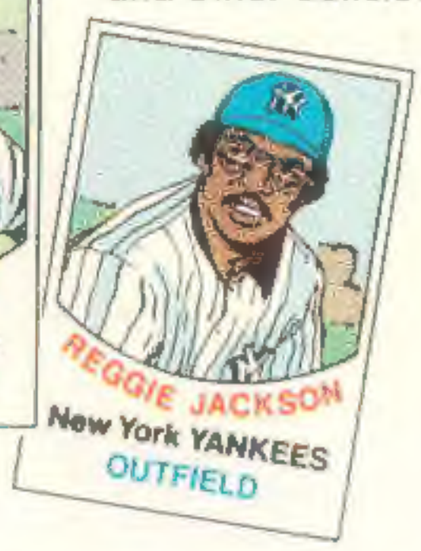

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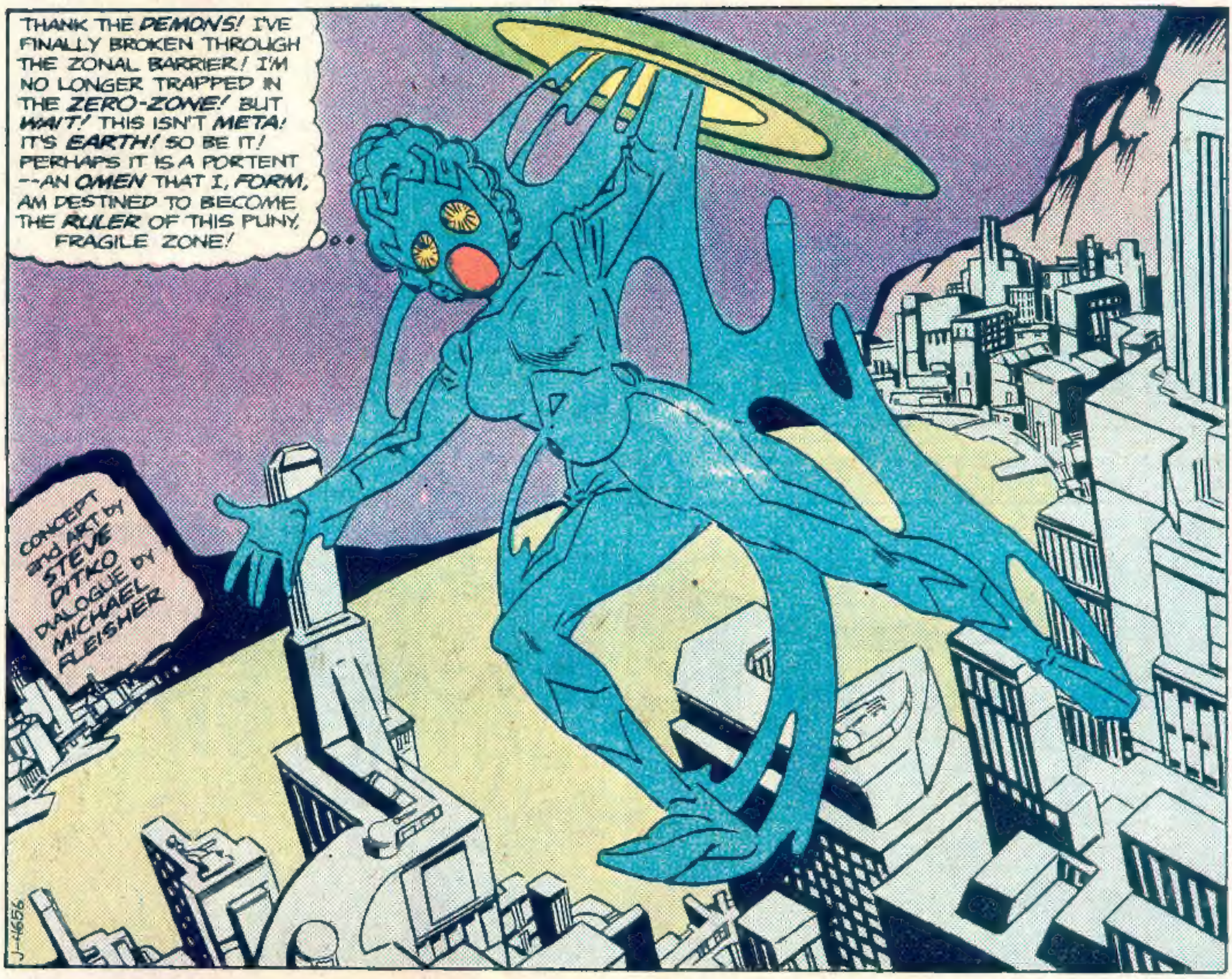

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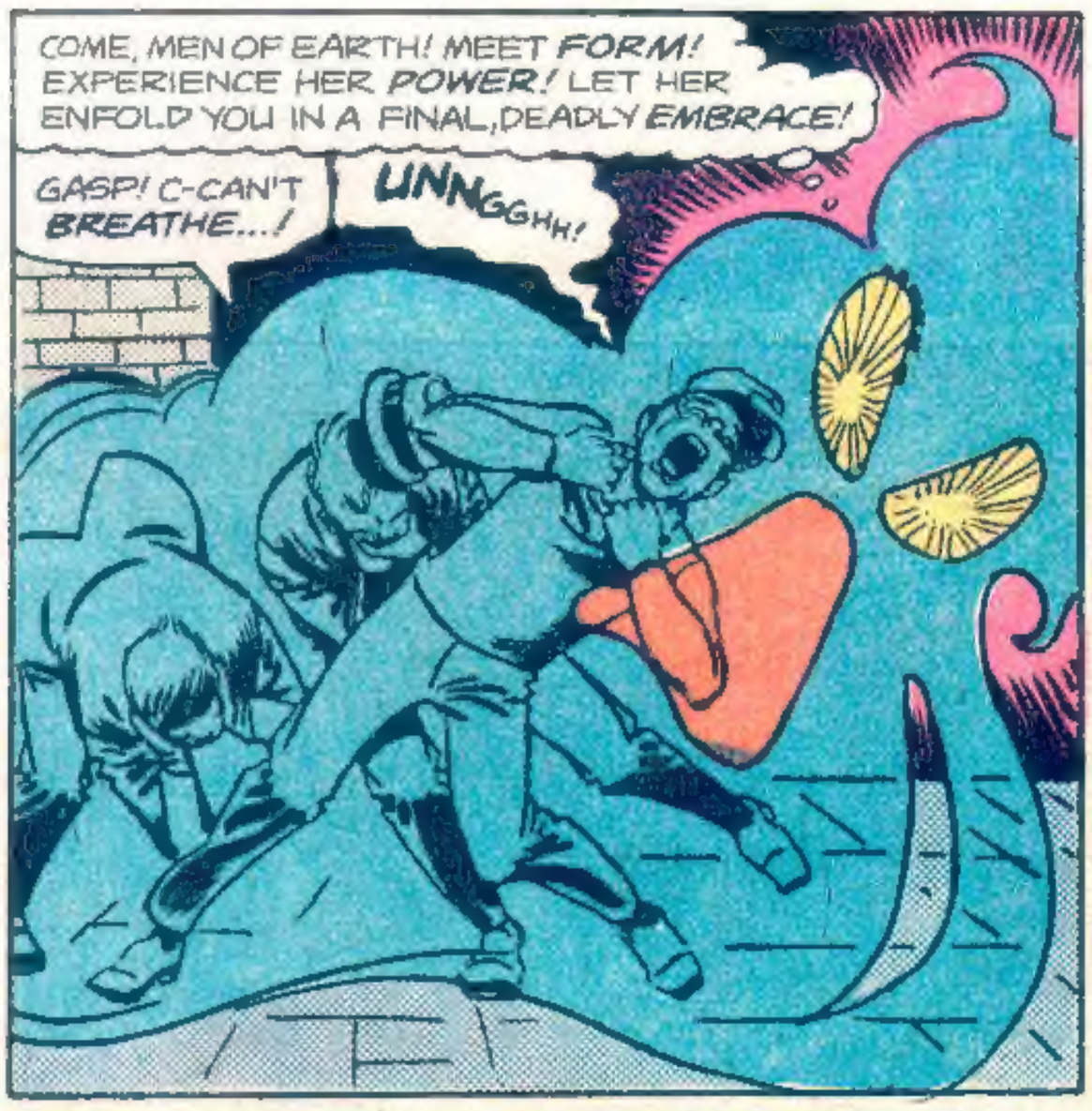
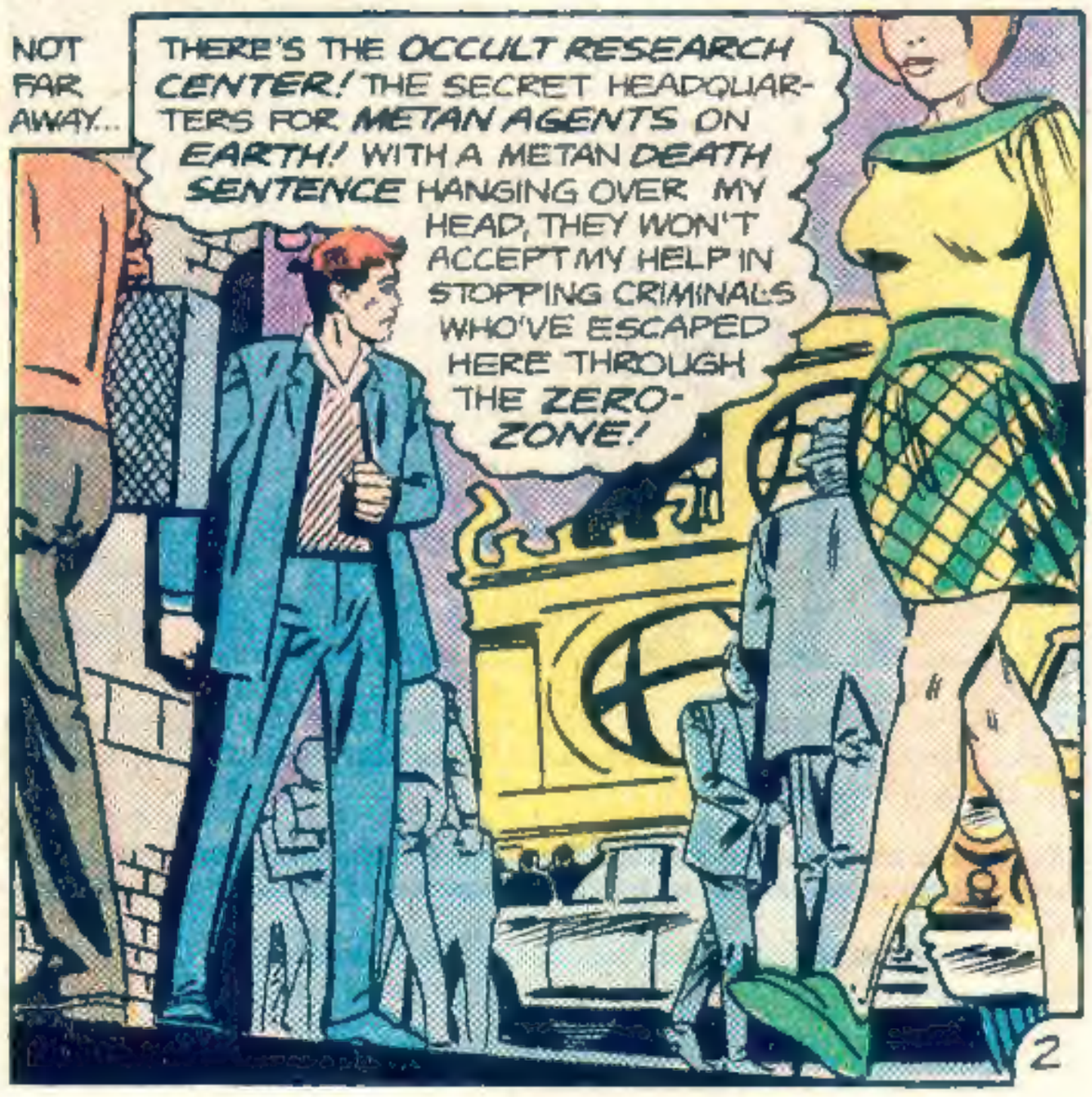


POWER! IT INTOXICATES MANY MEN, INCLUDING RACKETEERS JAKE GOLE AND MORGE KALE...



I WAS META'S TOP SECURITY AGENT --UNTIL I WAS FRAMED!

BUT A FREAK ACCIDENT CATAPULTED ME OUT OF META'S MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON...AND INTO THE ZERO-ZONE!

I MANAGED TO BREAK THROUGH THE ZONAL BARRIER TO MY SECRET EARTH APARTMENT...

...WHERE I RECOVERED MY UNAUTHORIZED M-VEST! MY PLAN WAS TO LOCATE KEMPO, THE MAN WHO HELPED FRAME ME!

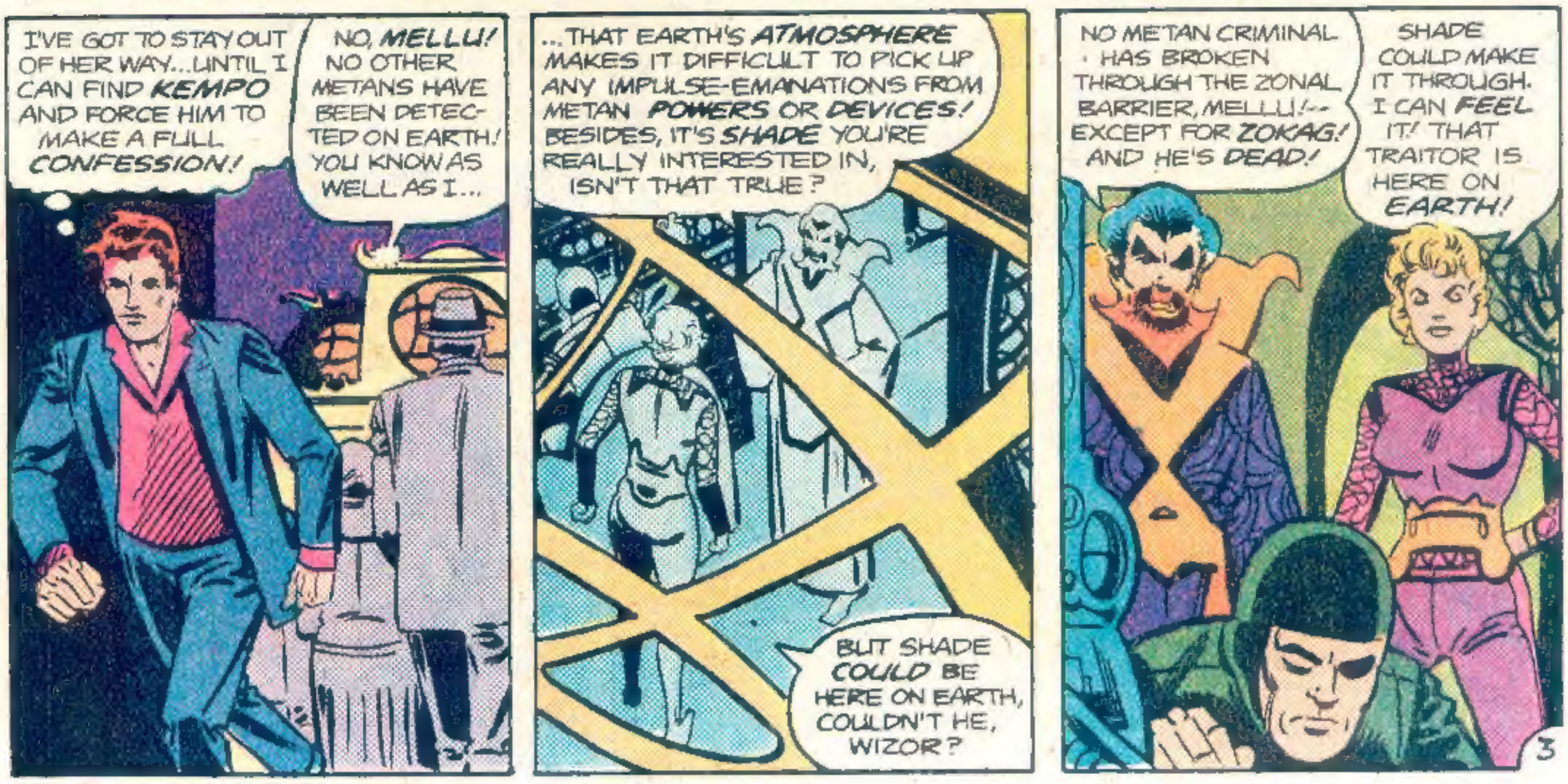
WHILE FIGHTING THE CRIME CZAR ZOKAG, I LEARNED MELLU--THE GIRL I LOVE--IS THE METAN N-AGENT SENT TO EARTH TO NEGATE ME!

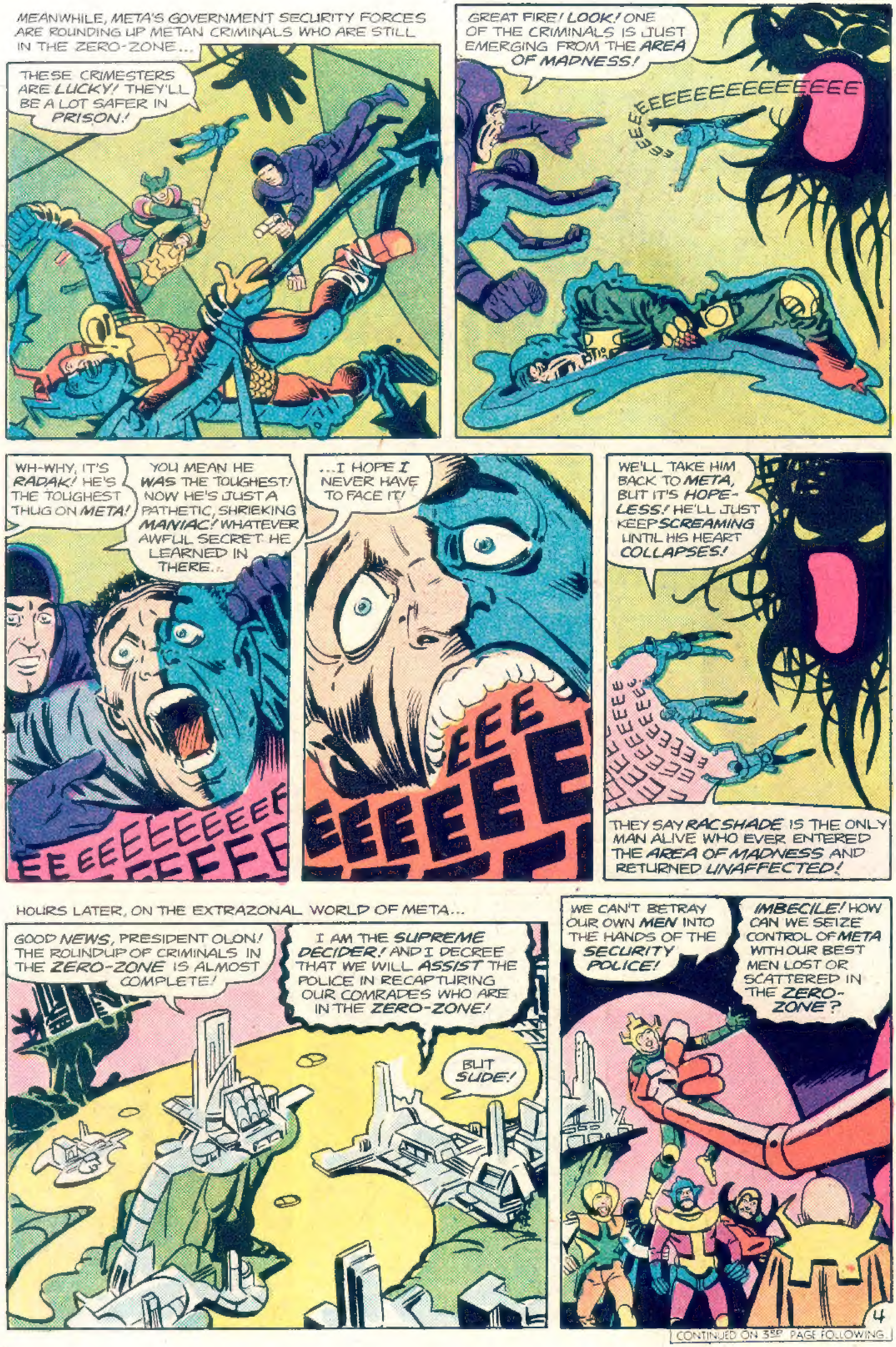
I HATE YOU, SHADE! I WANT THE CHANCE TO CARRY OUT YOUR DEATH SENTENCE MYSELF!

YOU'RE A TRAITOR TO META! YOU TRIED TO MURDER MY FATHER AND MOTHER! BECAUSE OF YOU, THEY'RE BOTH CRIPPLED FOR LIFE!

MELLU! ALL OF YOU! BELIEVE ME! I'M INNOCENT!

I STILL LOVE HER, BUT I CAN'T BLAME HER FOR THE WAY SHE FEELS!





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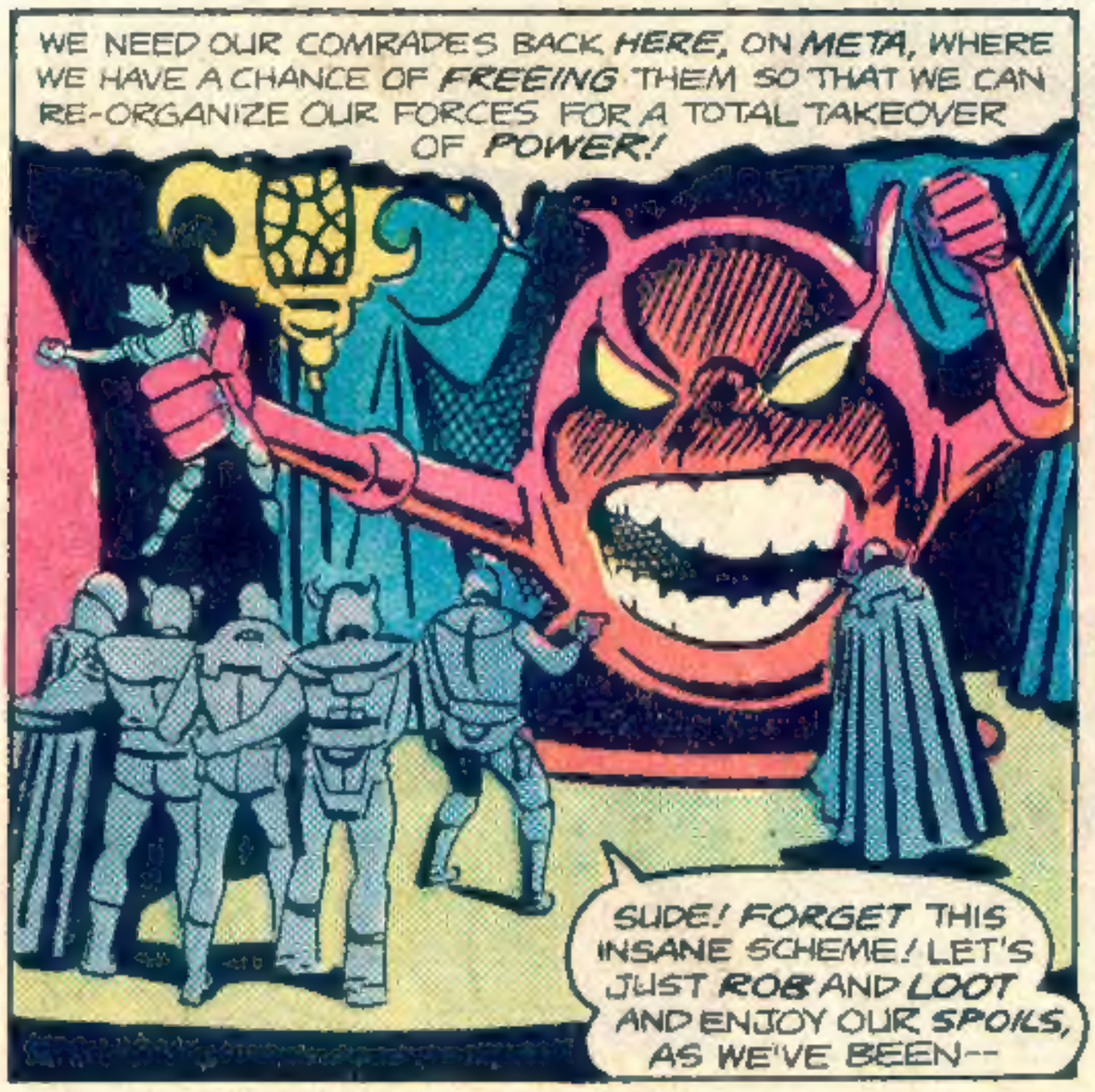
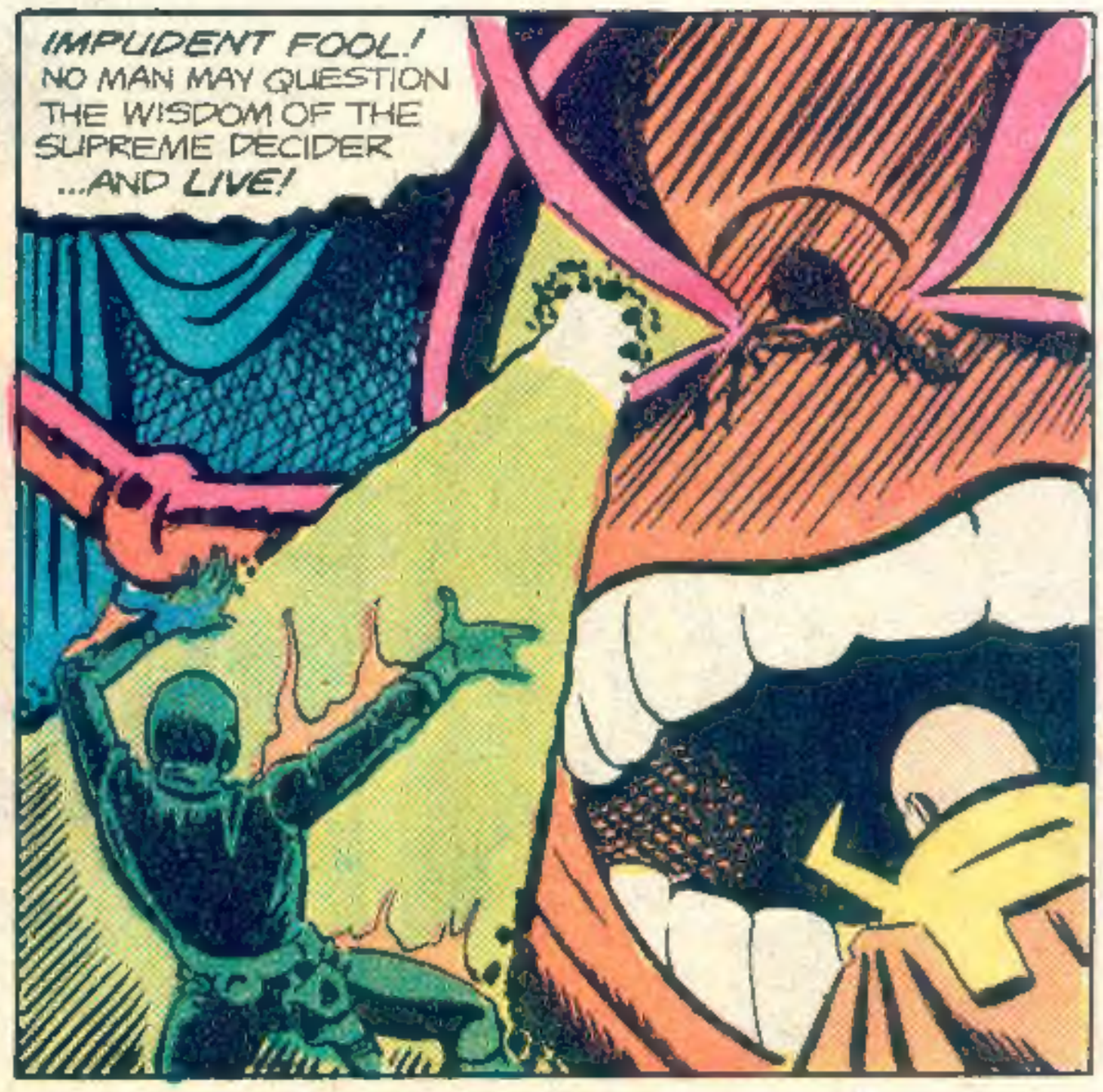
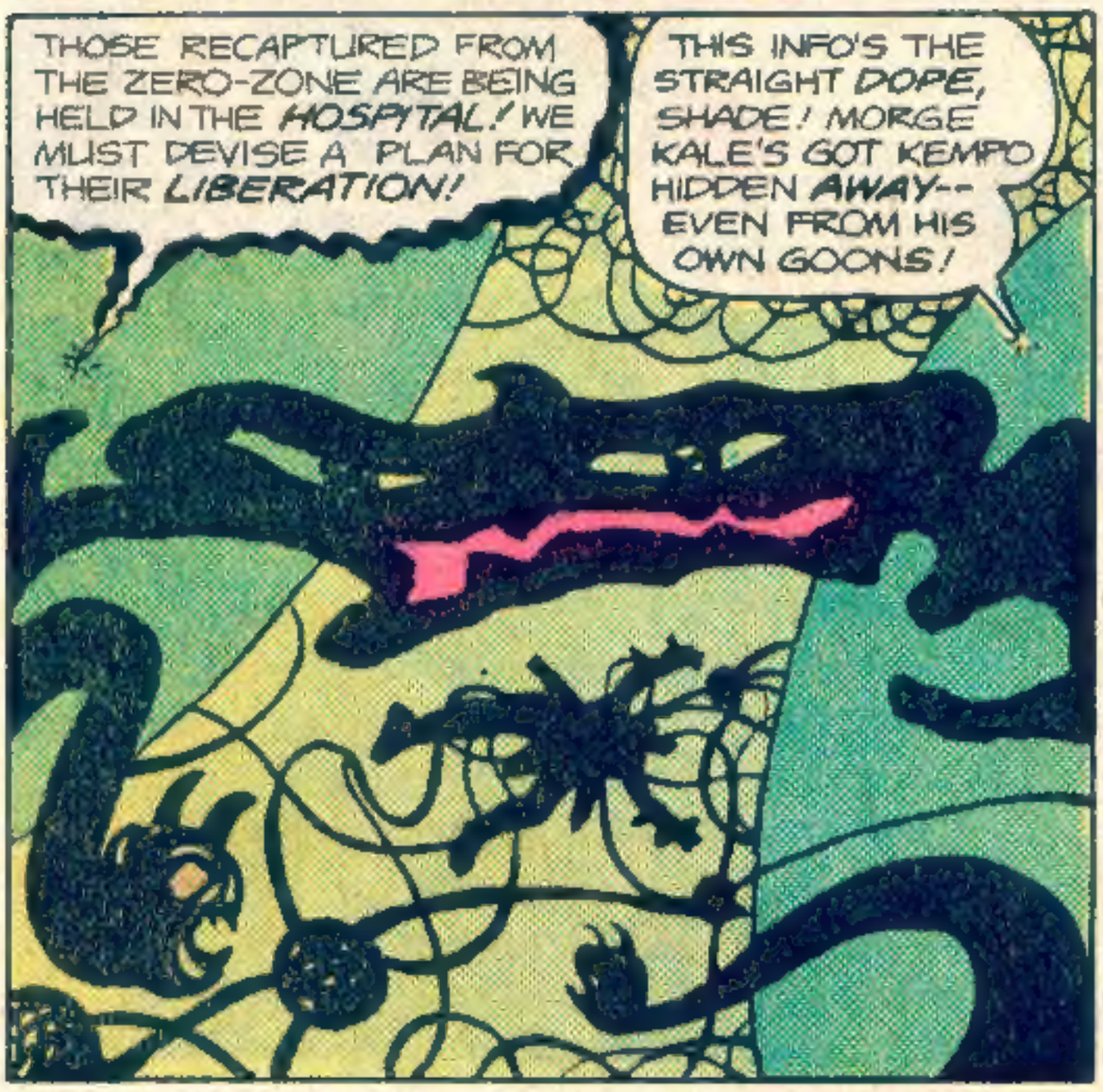
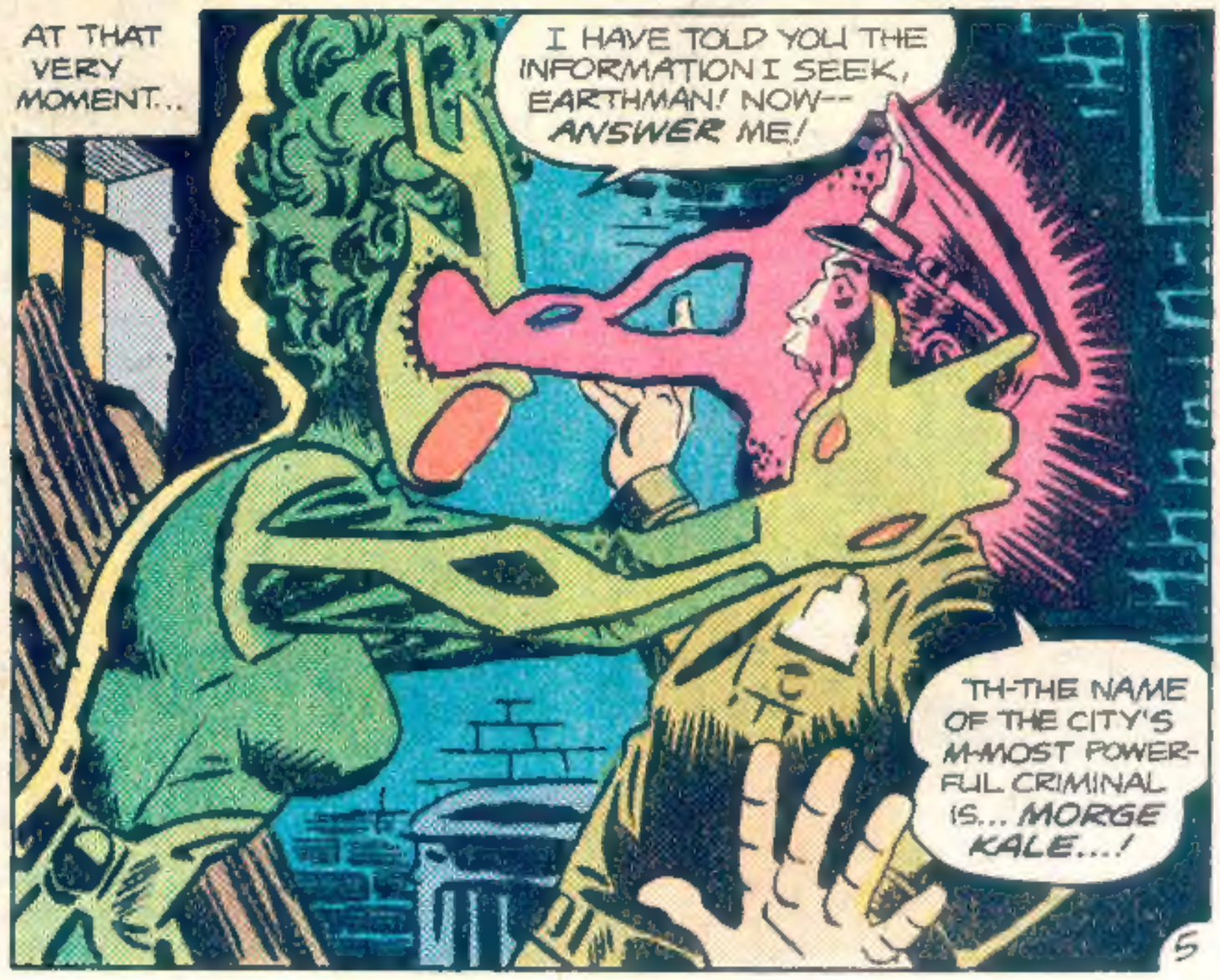

WE NEED OUR COMRADES BACK HERE, ON META, WHERE WE HAVE A CHANCE OF FREEING THEM SO THAT WE CAN RE-ORGANIZE OUR FORCES FOR A TOTAL TAKEOVER OF POWER!
SUDE! FORGET THIS INSANE SCHEME! LET'S JUST ROB AND LOOT AND ENJOY OUR SPOILS, AS WE'VE BEEN--


IMPUDENT FOOL! NO MAN MAY QUESTION THE WISDOM OF THE SUPREME DECIDER ...AND LIVE!

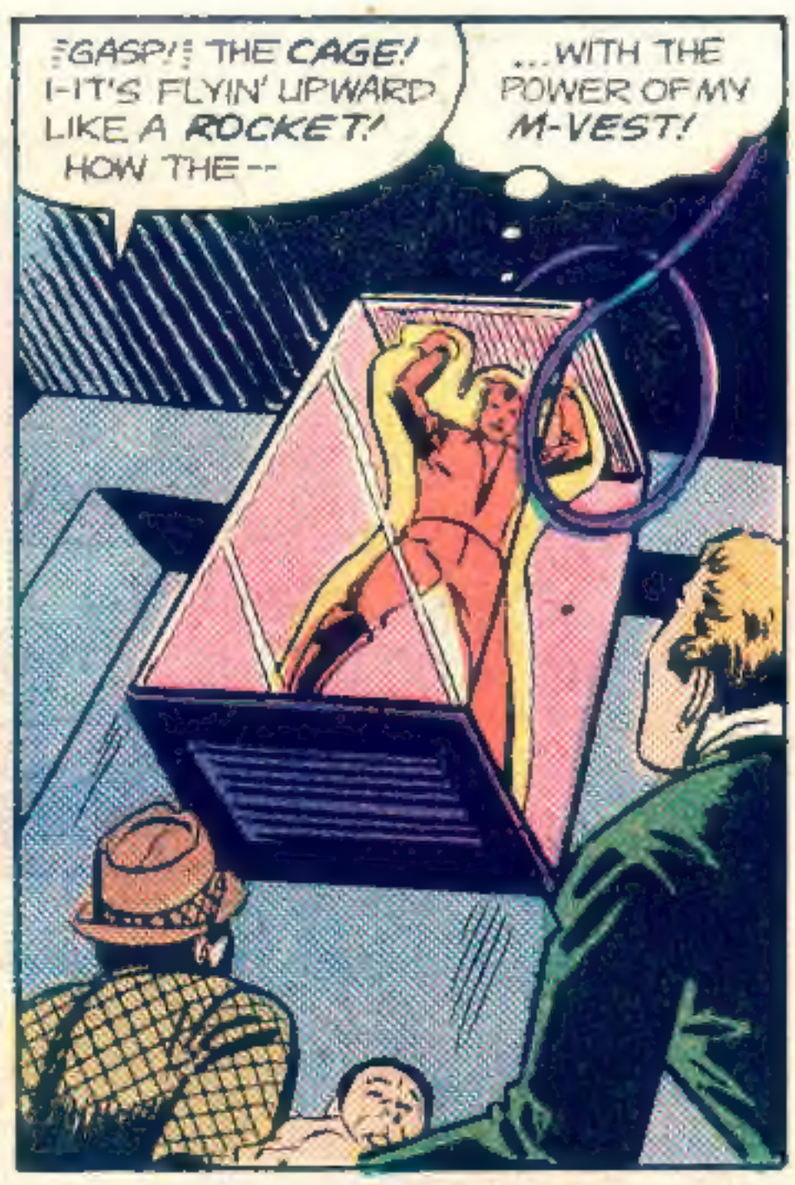

THOSE RECAPTURED FROM THE ZERO-ZONE ARE BEING HELD IN THE HOSPITAL! WE MUST DEVISE A PLAN FOR THEIR LIBERATION!
THIS INFO'S THE STRAIGHT DOPE, SHADE! MORGE KALE'S GOT KEMPO HIDDEN AWAY-- EVEN FROM HIS OWN GOONS!

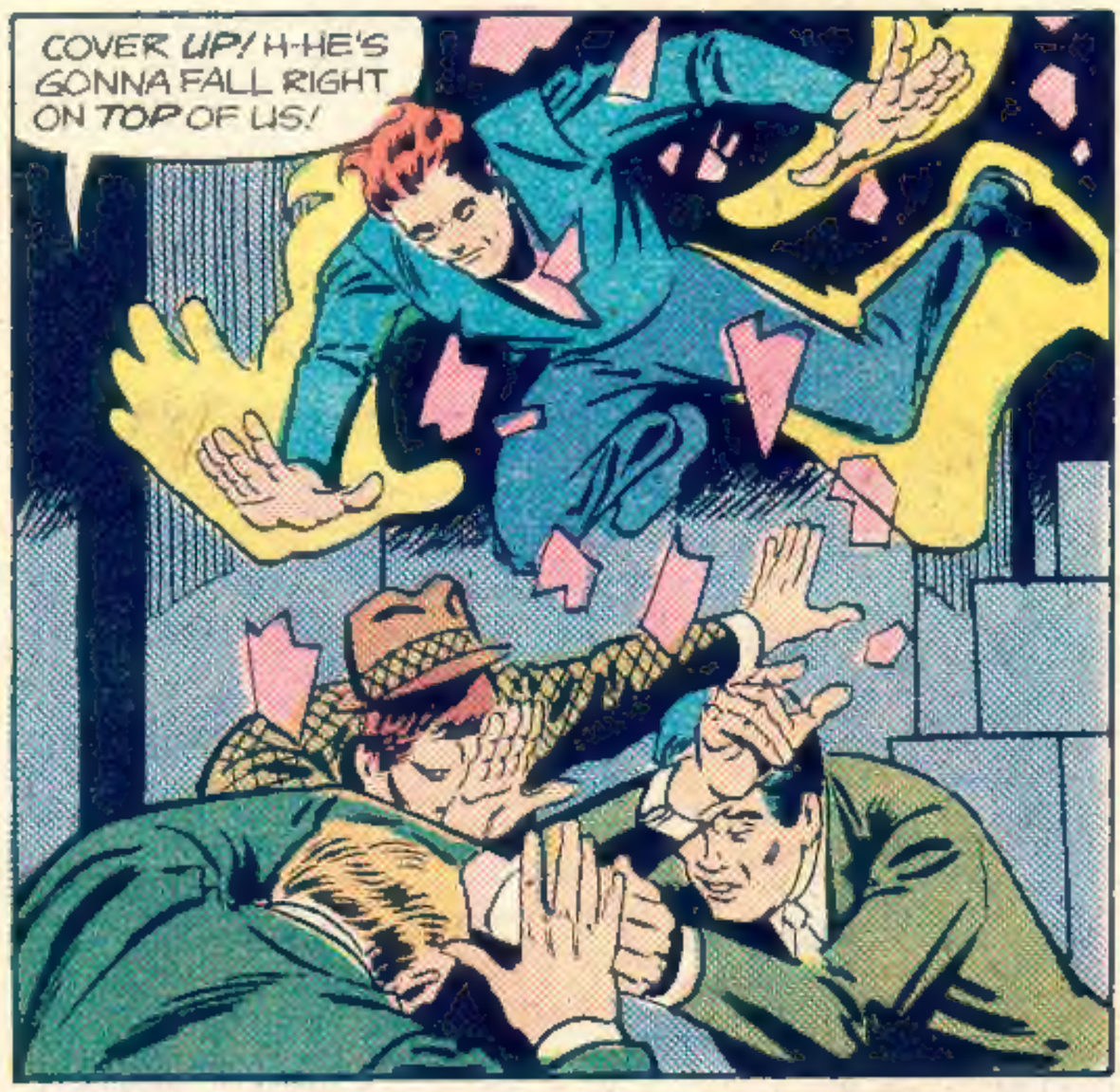
HERE'S THE ADDRESS! YOU WANT A COUPLA MY TORPEDOES TO KEEP YOU COMPANY?
NO! I'LL HANDLE THIS ON MY OWN!
THE WAY HE CHANGES! I-IT'S WEIRD! LIKE...LIKE HE'S LEAPIN' OUT AT US!

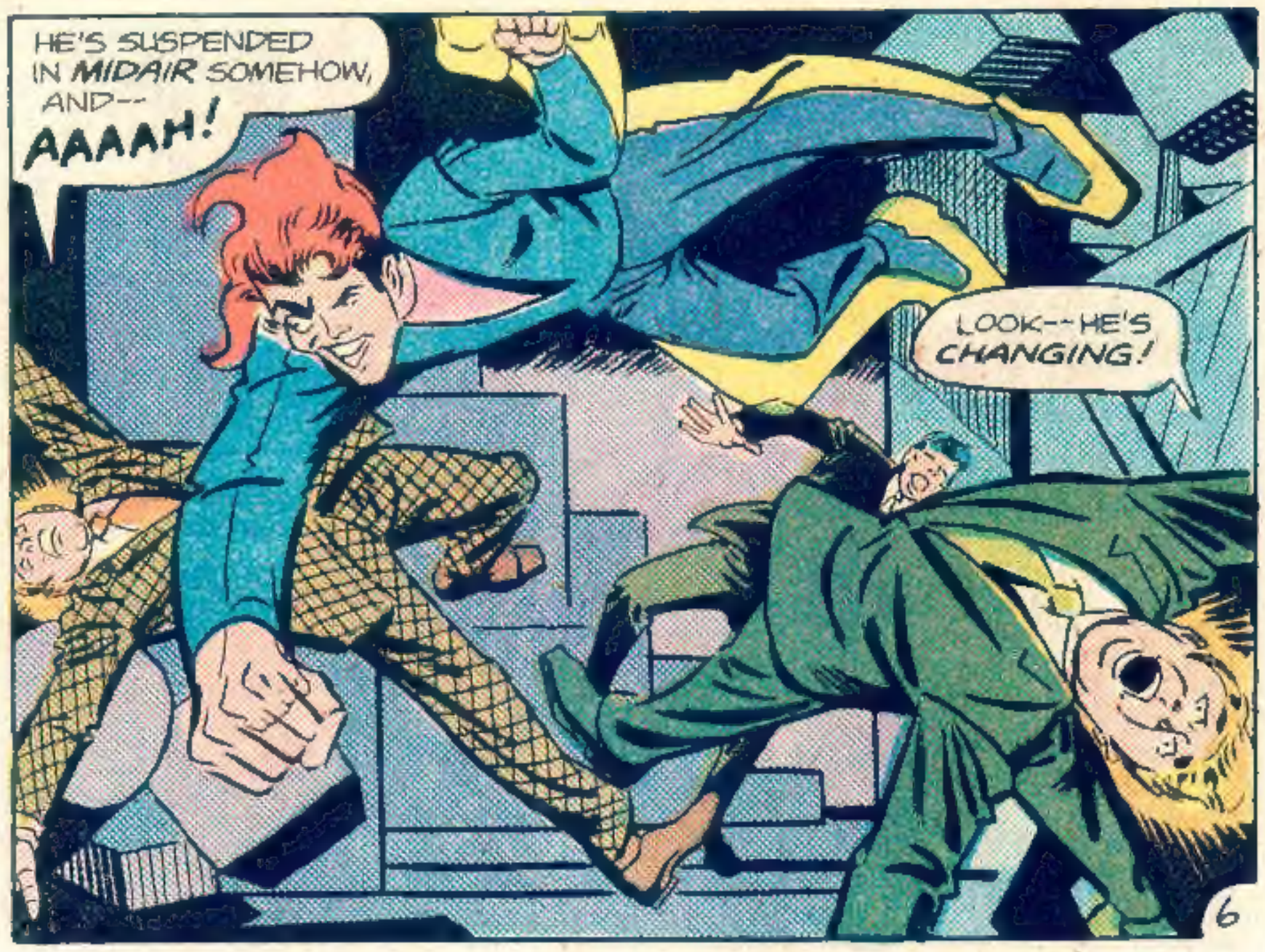
NOW, TONY, TIP OFF MORGE THAT "KILLER" SHADE'S ON HIS WAY!
RIGHT, JAKE! BUT PRAY THAT SHADE DOESN'T GET WISE TO THE DOUBLE-CROSS!


AT THAT VERY MOMENT...
I HAVE TOLD YOU THE INFORMATION I SEEK, EARTHMAN! NOW-- ANSWER ME!
TH-THE NAME OF THE CITY'S M-MOST POWERFUL CRIMINAL IS... MORGE KALE...!

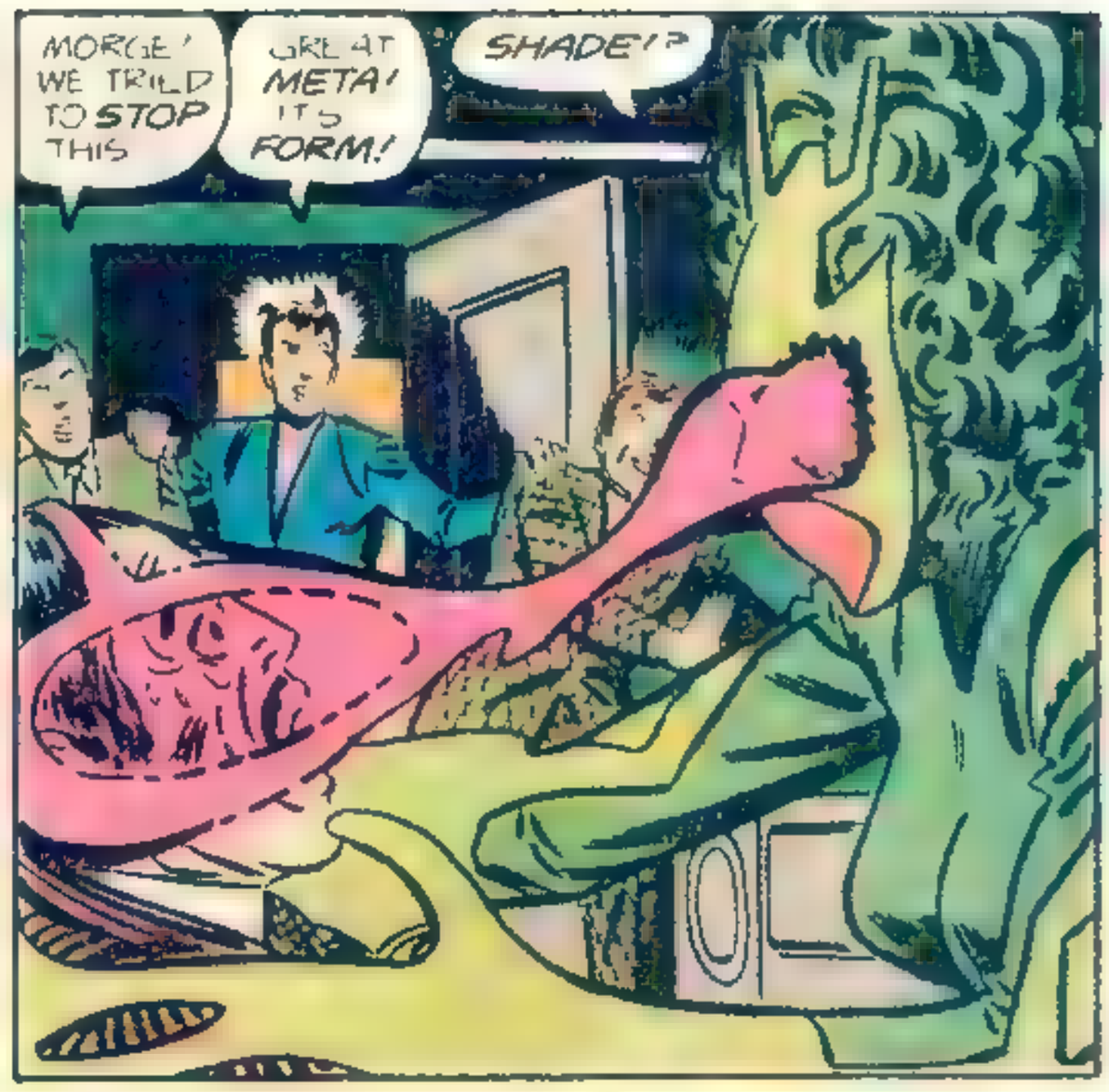
AT MORGE KALE'S WAREHOUSE HEAD-QUARTERS, SHADE HAS FALLEN INTO A PREPARED TRAP...

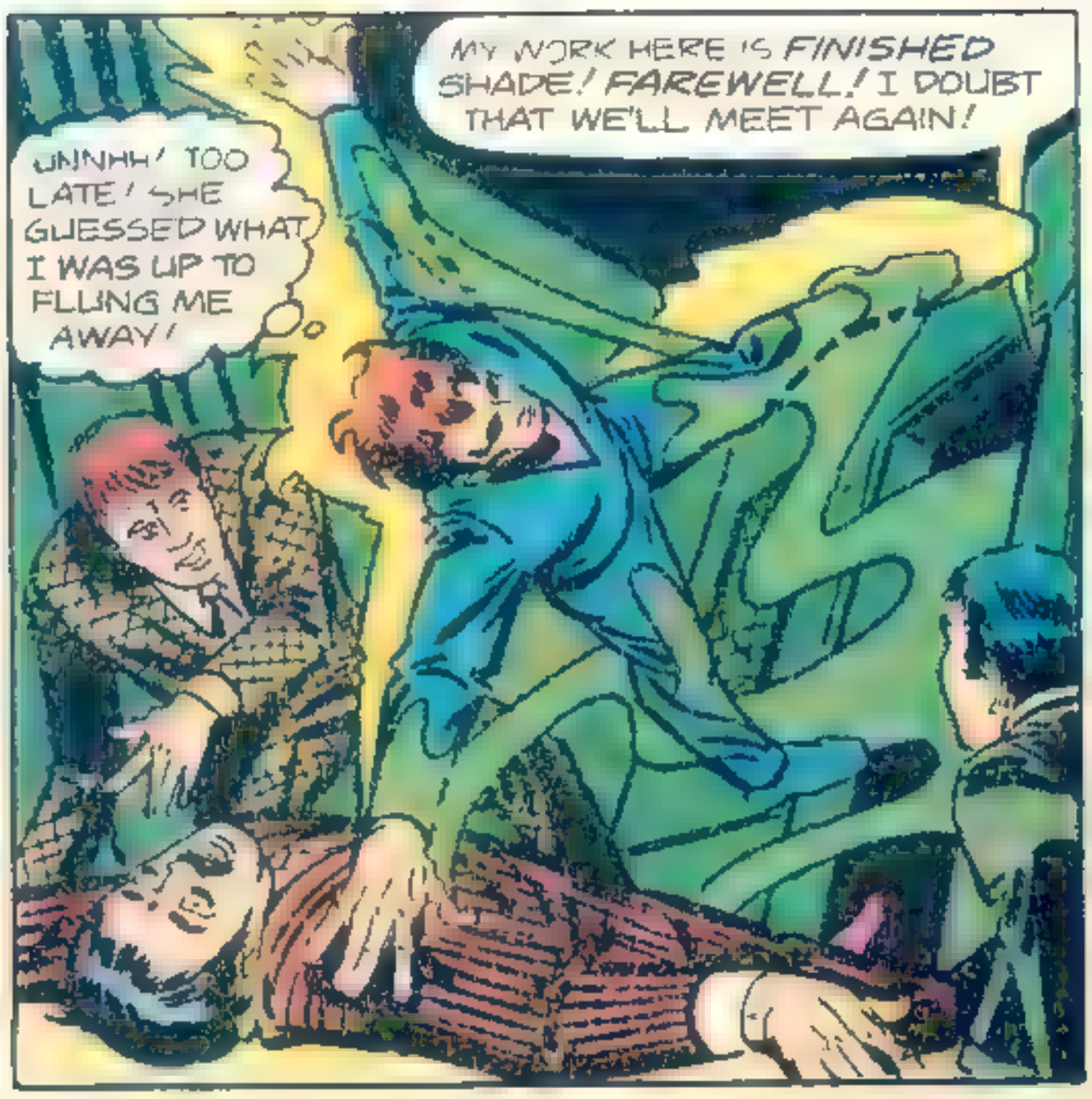






MEANWHILE, ONE FLOOR OVERHEAD, FORM HAS PENETRATED MORGE KALE'S MIND





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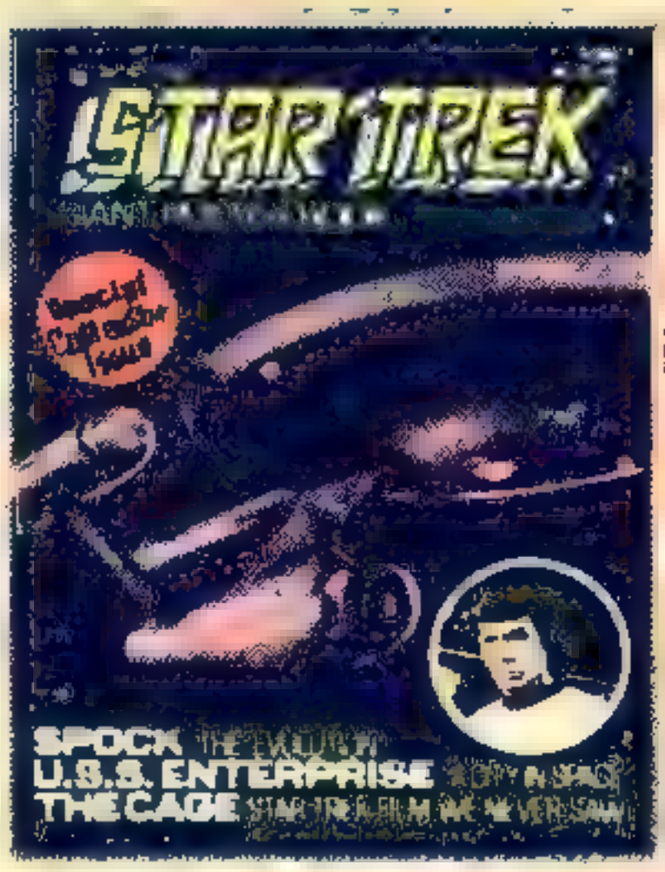

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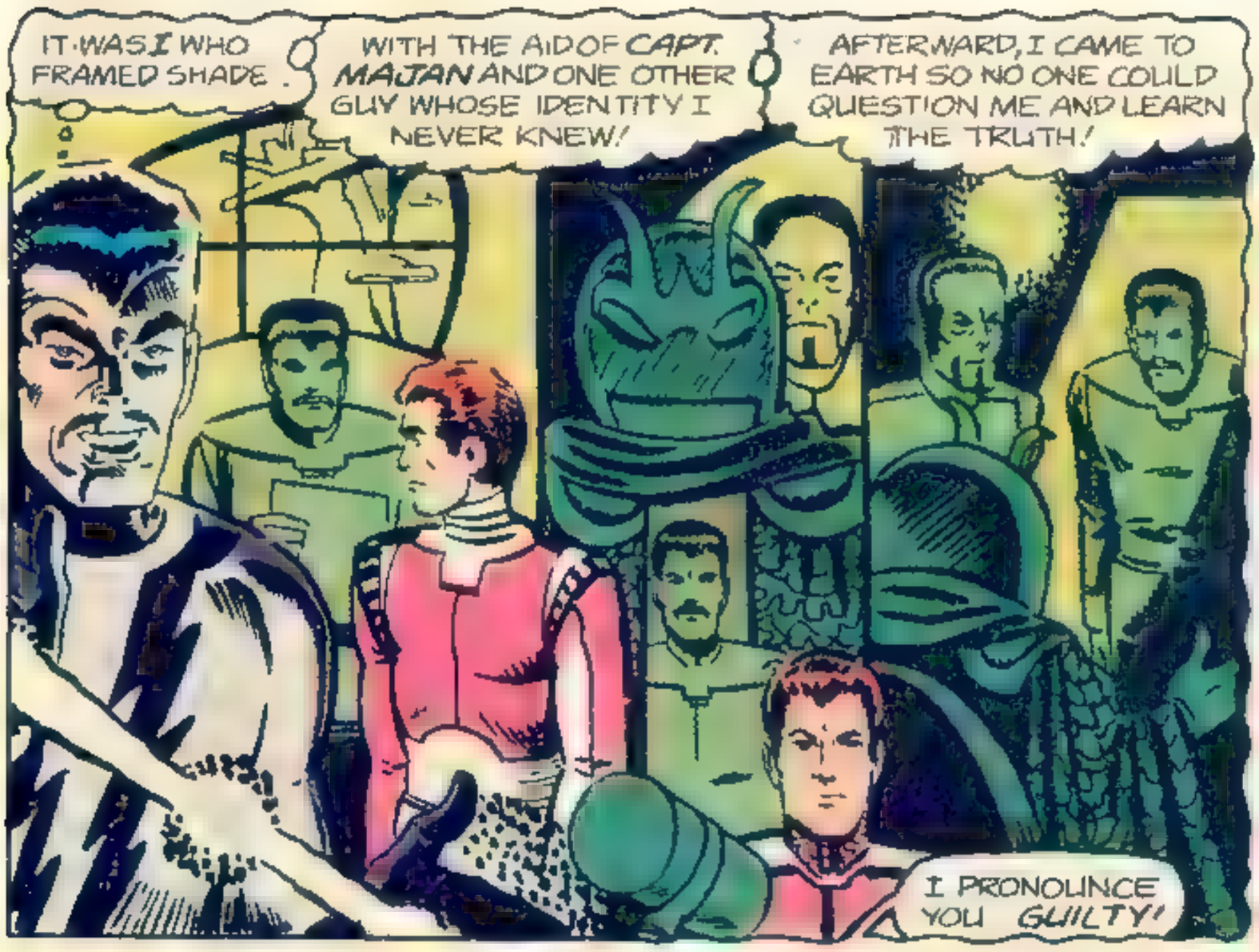

IT WAS I WHO FRAMED SHADE.
WITH THE AID OF CAPT. MAJAN AND ONE OTHER GUY WHOSE IDENTITY I NEVER KNEW!
AFTERWARD, I CAME TO EARTH SO NO ONE COULD QUESTION ME AND LEARN THE TRUTH!
I PRONOUNCE YOU GUILTY!

HEY, KEMPO! I WAS JUST OVER AT DOC PATCH'S! HE GOT AN EMERGENCY CALL-- SEEMS MORGE KALE'S REAL SICK!
GOOD! FORGET JAKE GOLE FOR NOW, AND SMASH MORGE KALE'S MOB FIRST!

MEANWHILE, KALE'S HENCHMAN BEN IS PAYING A CALL!
SO YOU REALLY THINK WHAT I SAW WAS SOME O'THAT SUPERNATURAL STUFF YOU BEEN TELLIN' ME ABOUT, EH, DORA?
I SURE DO, BABY!

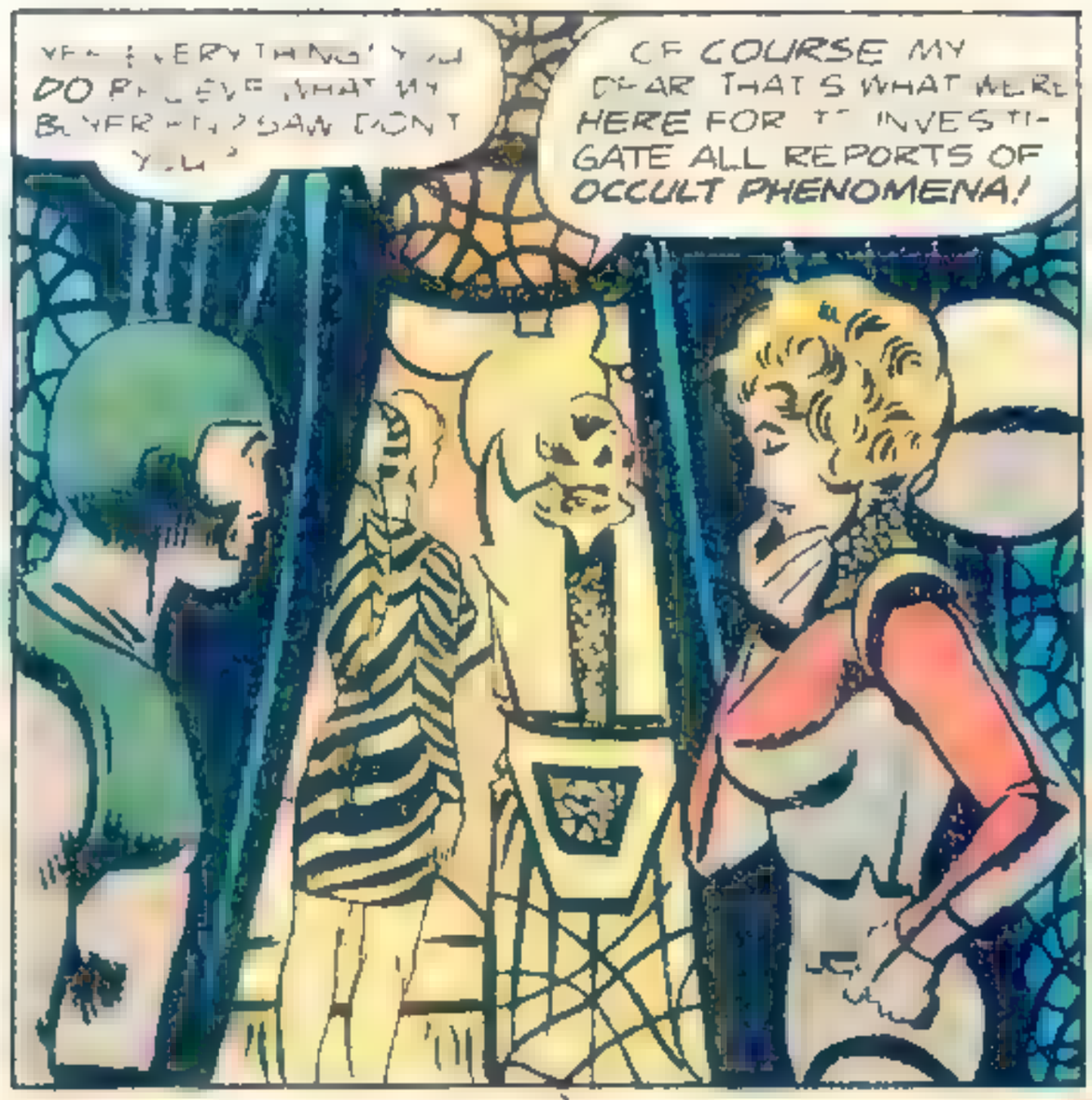
WELL, OKAY! WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT SOME MORE LATER! RIGHT NOW I GOTTA GET BACK TO THE WAREHOUSE AN' HELP LOOK AFTER MORGE!
CATCH YOU LATER, HONEY!

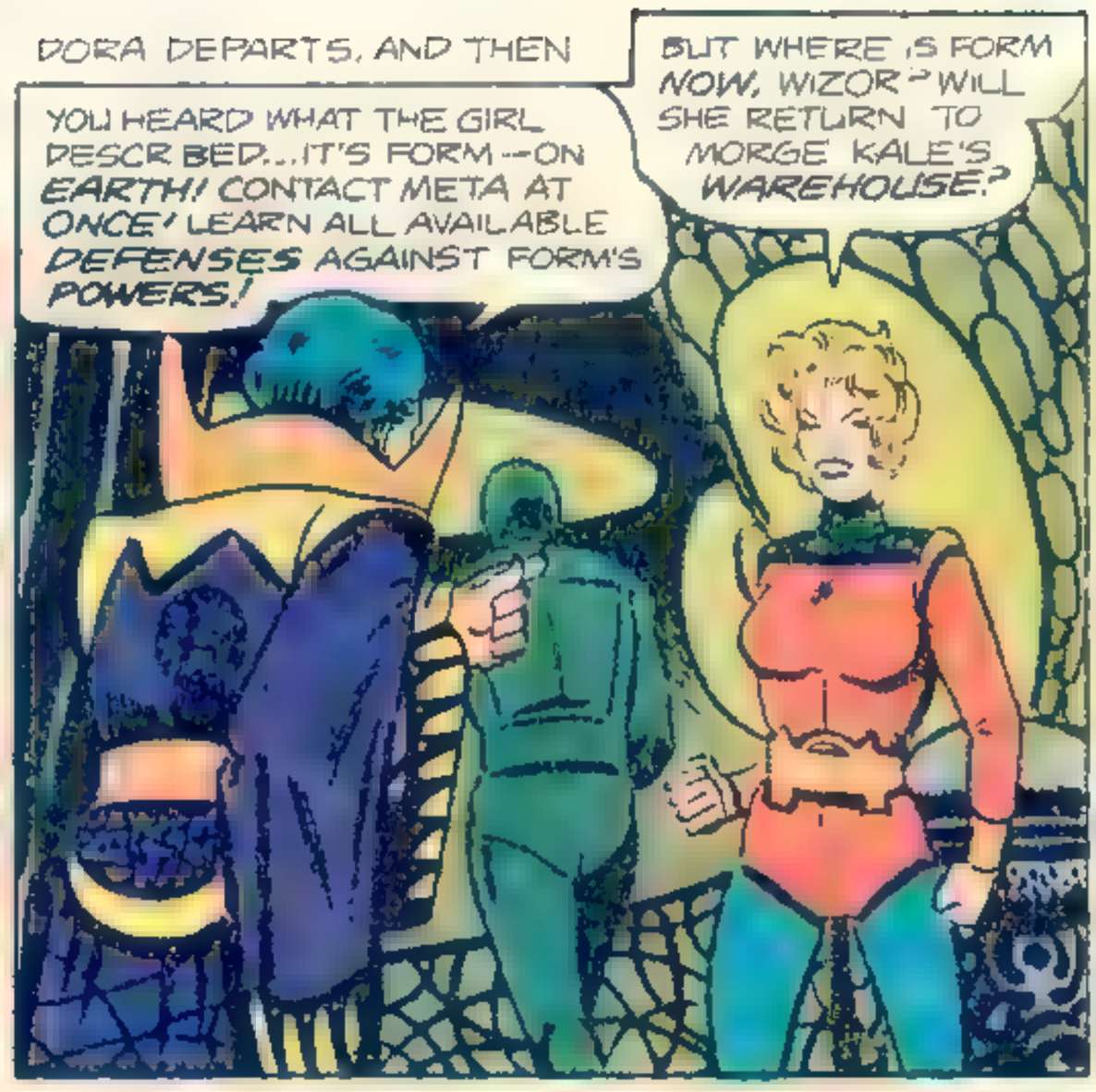
BEN DOESN'T BELIEVE IN THE SUPERNATURAL LIKE I DO! BUT SOMEBODY OUGHTA TELL THE PEOPLE AT THE O.R.C. ABOUT THAT FREAKY CREATURE HE SAW!

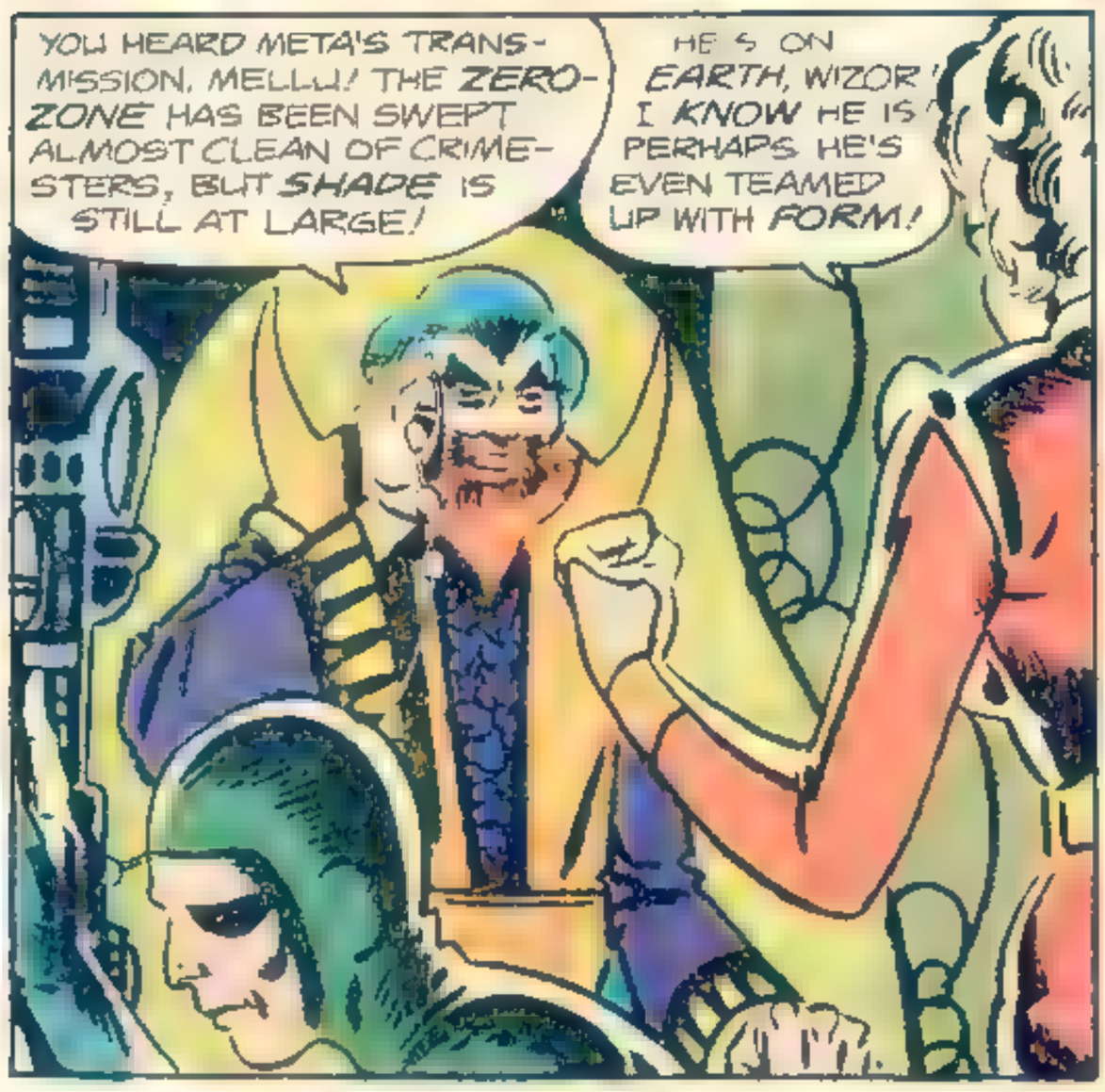
MOMENTS LATER IN A PHONE BOOTH
NEVER MIND WHO THIS IS, WIZOR!-- FORM IS HERE ON EARTH!
I DOUBT IF I'M FOOLING HIM!

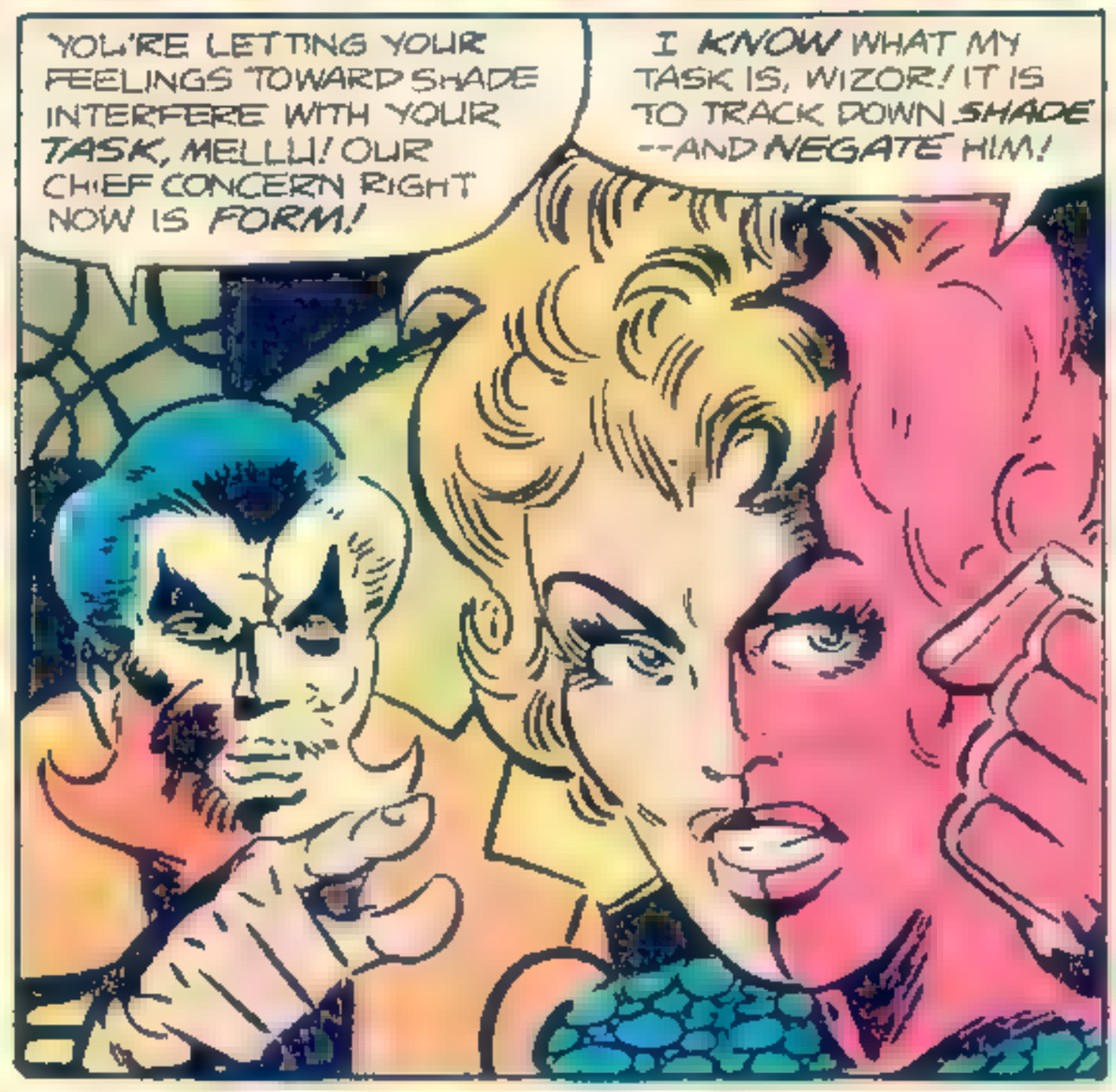
HE HUNG UP! BUT THERE'S NO DISGUISING THAT VOICE! IT WAS SHADE!
I WON'T TELL MELLU UNTIL IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!

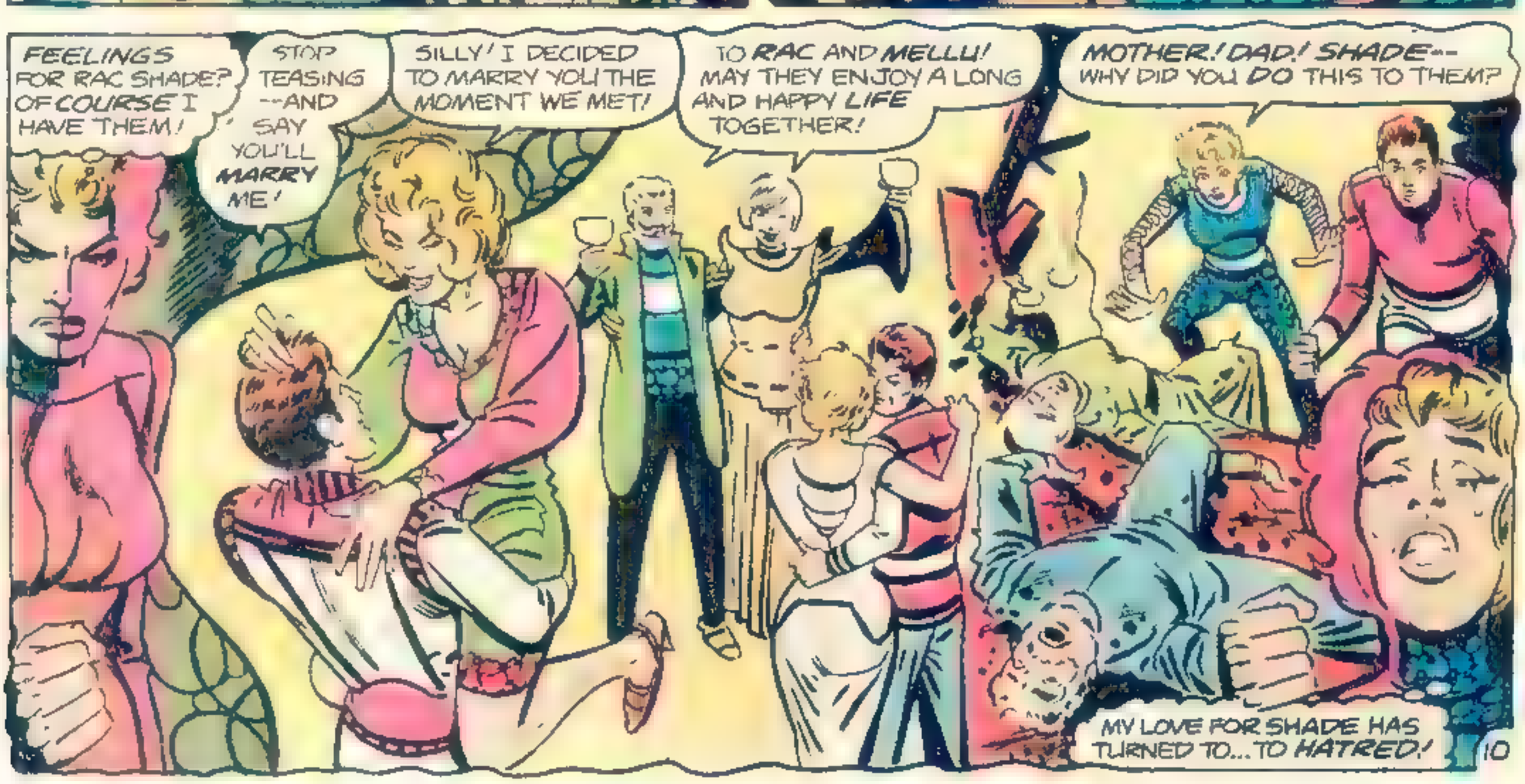
SHADE CAN WAIT! RIGHT NOW, FORM IS OUR PROBLEM!
FORGIVE ME FOR INTERRUPTING YOU, MY DEAR! HAVE YOU TOLD ME EVERYTHING YOU WISHED?


YES! EVERYTHING YOU DO BELIEVE WHAT MY BUYER HAS SAID DON'T YOU?
OF COURSE MY DEAR THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR TO INVESTIGATE ALL REPORTS OF OCCULT PHENOMENA!


DORA DEPARTS, AND THEN
YOU HEARD WHAT THE GIRL DESCRIBED...IT'S FORM --ON EARTH! CONTACT META AT ONCE! LEARN ALL AVAILABLE DEFENSES AGAINST FORM'S POWERS!
BUT WHERE IS FORM NOW, WIZOR? WILL SHE RETURN TO MORGE KALE'S WAREHOUSE?


YOU HEARD META'S TRANSMISSION, MELLU! THE ZERO-ZONE HAS BEEN SWEPT ALMOST CLEAN OF CRIMESTERS, BUT SHADE IS STILL AT LARGE!
HE'S ON EARTH, WIZOR! I KNOW HE IS! PERHAPS HE'S EVEN TEAMED UP WITH FORM!


YOU'RE LETTING YOUR FEELINGS TOWARD SHADE INTERFERE WITH YOUR TASK, MELLU! OUR CHIEF CONCERN RIGHT NOW IS FORM!
I KNOW WHAT MY TASK IS, WIZOR! IT IS TO TRACK DOWN SHADE --AND NEGATE HIM!


FEELINGS FOR RAC SHADE? OF COURSE I HAVE THEM!
STOP TEASING --AND SAY YOU'LL MARRY ME!
SILLY! I DECIDED TO MARRY YOU THE MOMENT WE MET!
TO RAC AND MELLU! MAY THEY ENJOY A LONG AND HAPPY LIFE TOGETHER!
MOTHER! DAD! SHADE-- WHY DID YOU DO THIS TO THEM?
MY LOVE FOR SHADE HAS TURNED TO...TO HATRED!

A friendly AIR-BREATHING "Crazy Crab" is the most amazing pet you'll ever own! As gentle as a pussycat, it lives on LAND instead of water, DOES NOT BITE unless mishandled, and quickly gets to know its owner! Absolutely clean and odorless, it actually wears "clothing"—an empty snailshell that it changes like a costume, and is one of the LONGEST-LIVED pets on earth!

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☐ Add _____ "Crazy Crab" Playshells to my order at 75¢ each!

☐ Giant "Crazy Crab", $4.95.

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Name
(please print)
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City
State Zip

N.Y. State Residents (8%)

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WAIT TILL YOU SEE HOW
IT LOOKS TODAY!!
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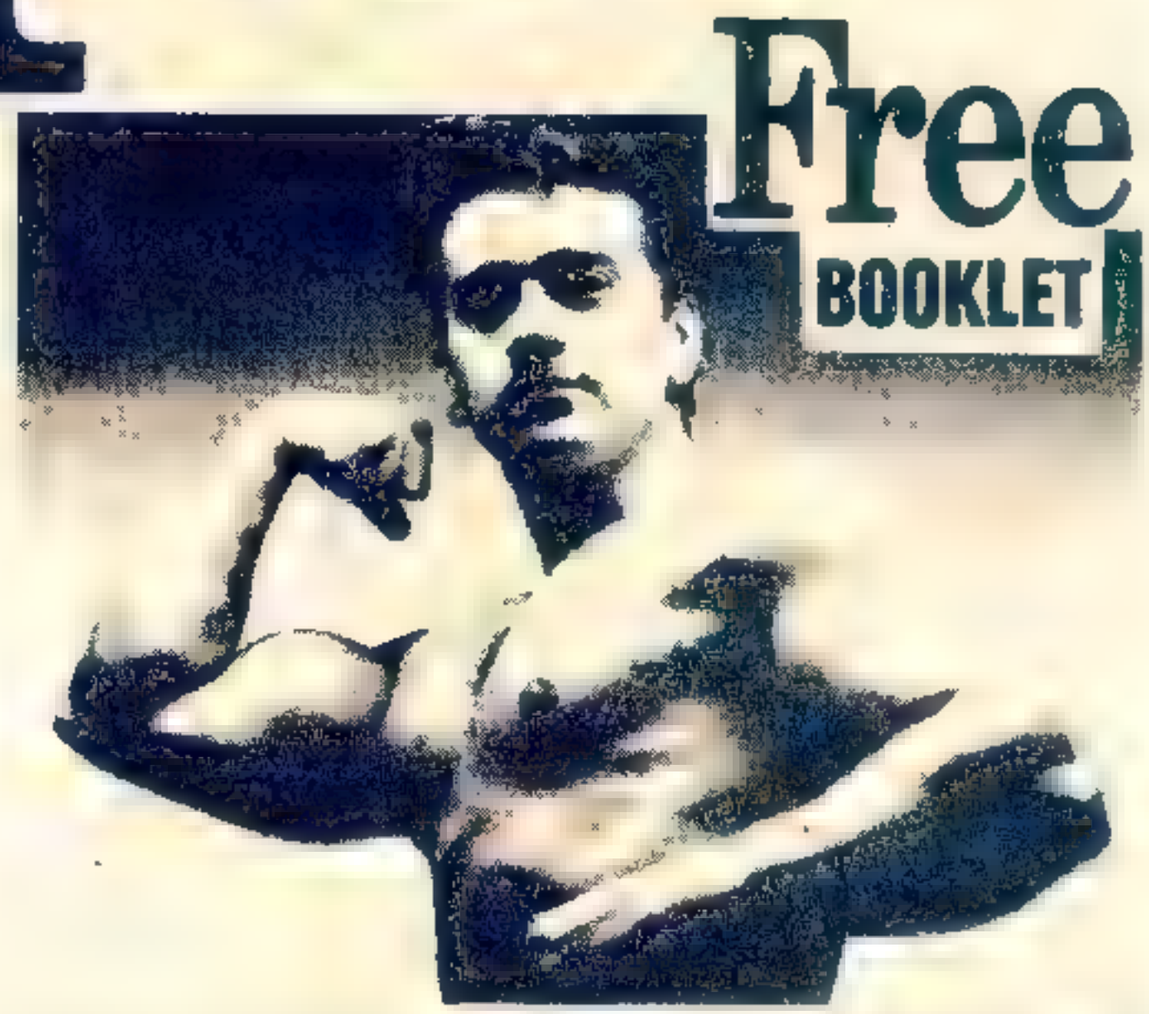

MORRIE MITCHELL GAINED 65 POUNDS OF MUSCLE WHILE FOLLOWING OUR 'REVOLUTIONARY NEW METHODS' ON BODYBUILDING.

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YOU'LL PUT ON INCHES OF POWERFUL MUSCLES ON YOUR BODY!

At last, NEW bodybuilding secrets are now available for your use. Finally, after years of experimenting we have come up with the fastest muscle building system in the world. Our course really works — **thousands** have taken our course and have obtained fantastic results. Right in the privacy or your own bedroom, you can completely transform your body.

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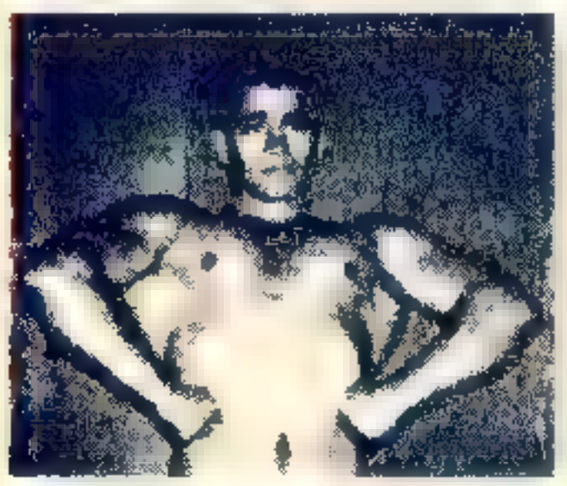
You can have POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST . . . not by years and years of hard work . . . but by simply following our fascinating system . . . a system that works so fast you can see results from day to day! Isn't that the kind of course you want? We absolutely guarantee results.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE LETTERS WE HAVE RECEIVED

"Wow! I'm making fantastic gains, following your new method of muscle building I never knew it could be so easy to build muscles"
J Johnson

"I was a skinny weakling when I enrolled, now I've gained 30 pounds in just 45 days. I am truly amazed. I'm going to be dynamite on the beach."
B Abbott



"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1½" on my arms and 4" on my chest I have also lost 4" off my waist Your course is just great!"
D Roberts

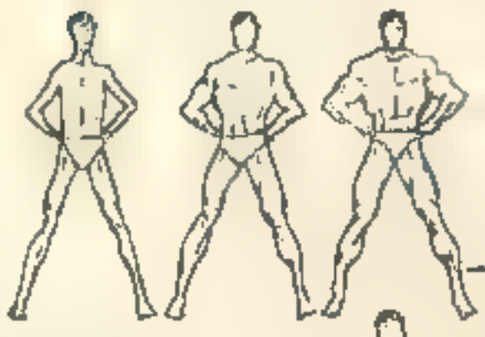
"I'm transforming all the fat off my body and changing it into rock hard muscle. It's amazing I have lost 8" off my waist. I can actually see my muscles growing from day to day."
P. Williams

"I have gained 20 pounds in just 30 days and I have gained over 6 inches on my chest I find that my power has doubled. In sports I am a winner in everything I do."
B. Daniels

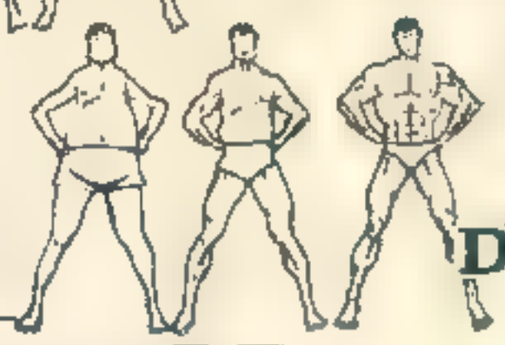
"I have gained 5" on my arms and 12" on my chest, while losing 3" off my waist. I have tripled my power and speed Thanks for what you have done for me!"
M. Robinson

TAKE YOUR CHOICE! You Can Do This...

★ DOUBLE OR TRIPLE YOUR STRENGTH in record time! It wouldn't take long before you can perform feats of strength



SKINNY?
MUSCLES WILL APPEAR . . . ALMOST LIKE MAGIC!



FAT?
FAT WILL DISAPPEAR — REPLACED BY MUSCLES!

YOUR NEW MUSCLES WILL FEEL LIKE DYNAMITE!!

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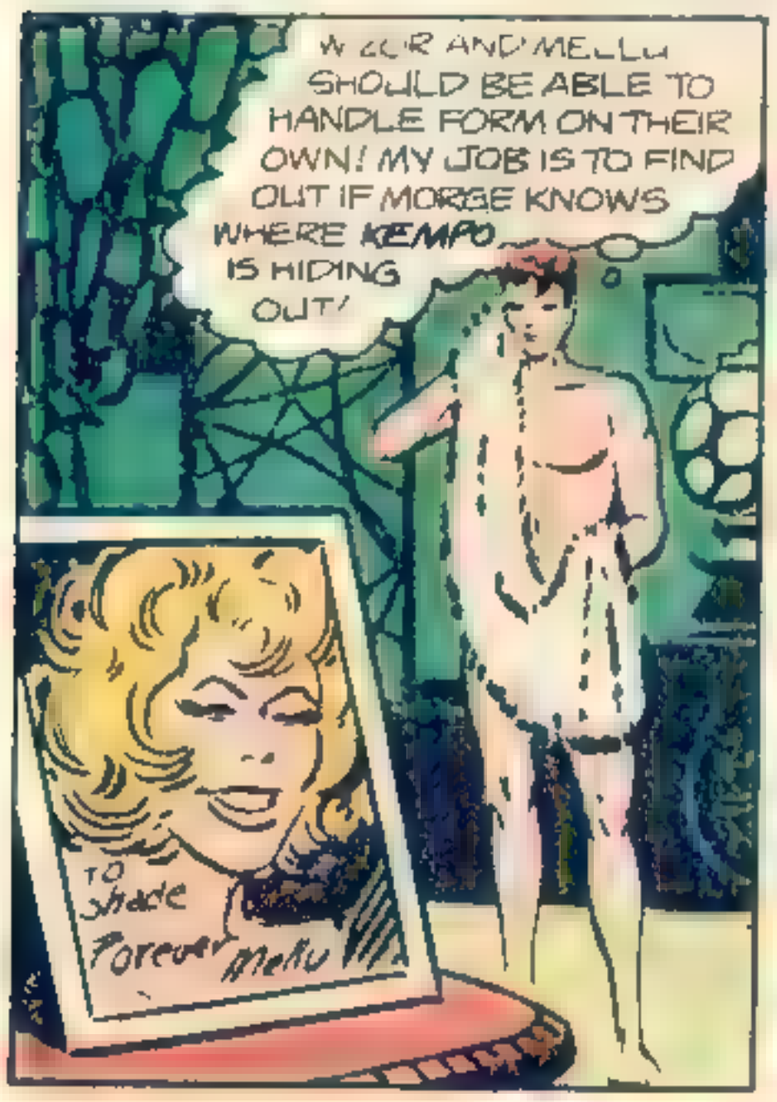
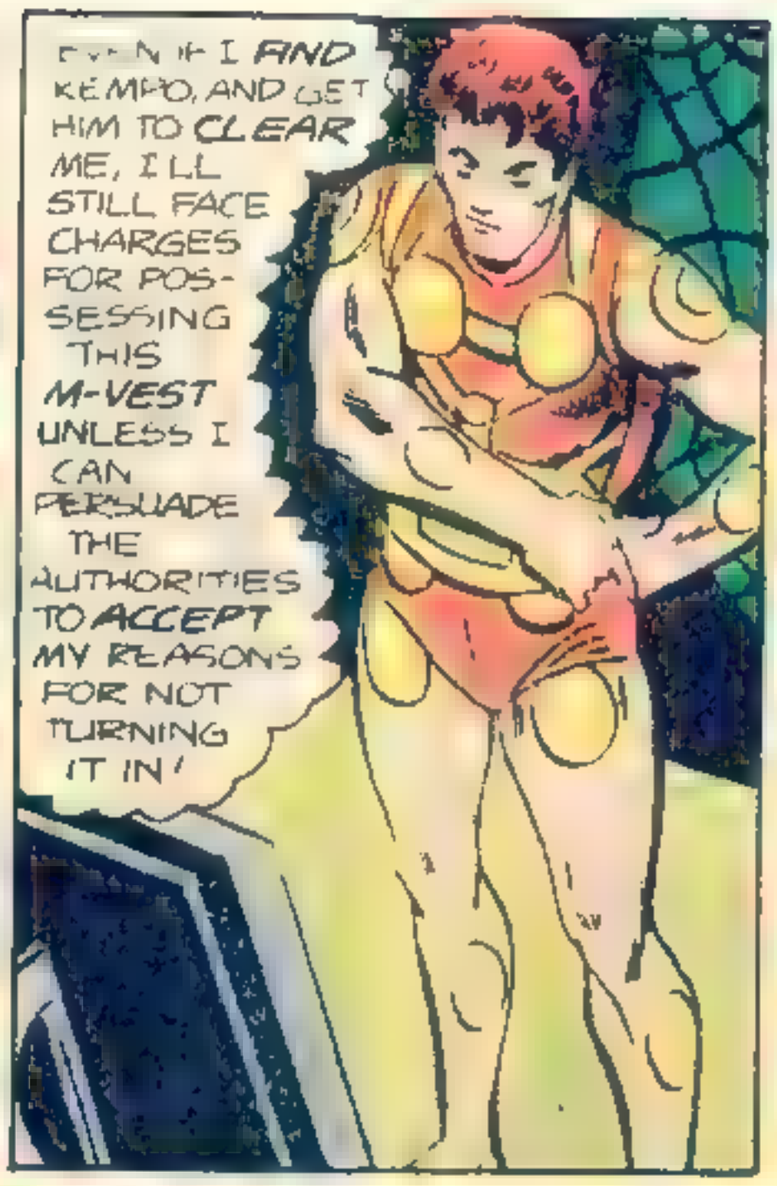
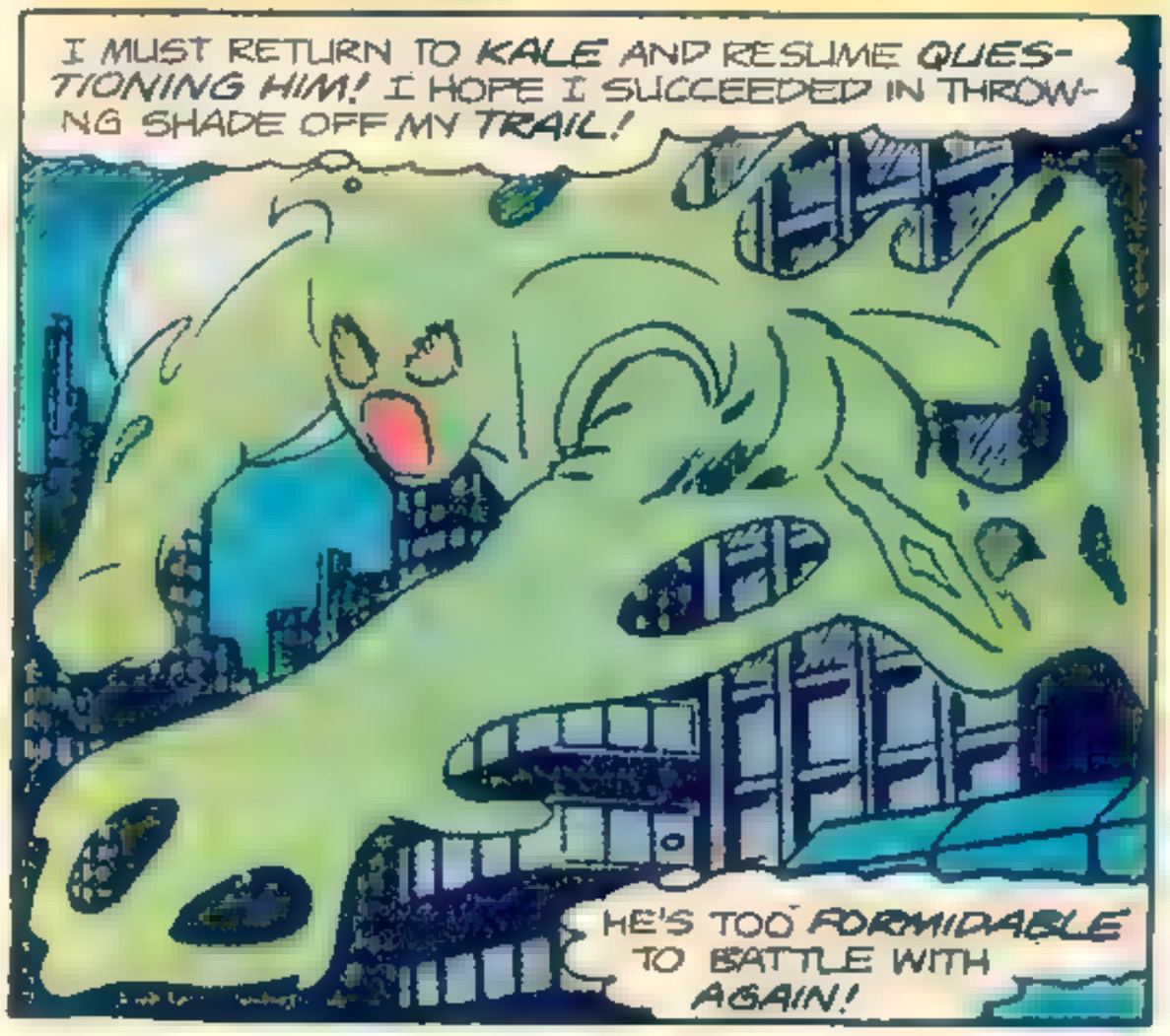
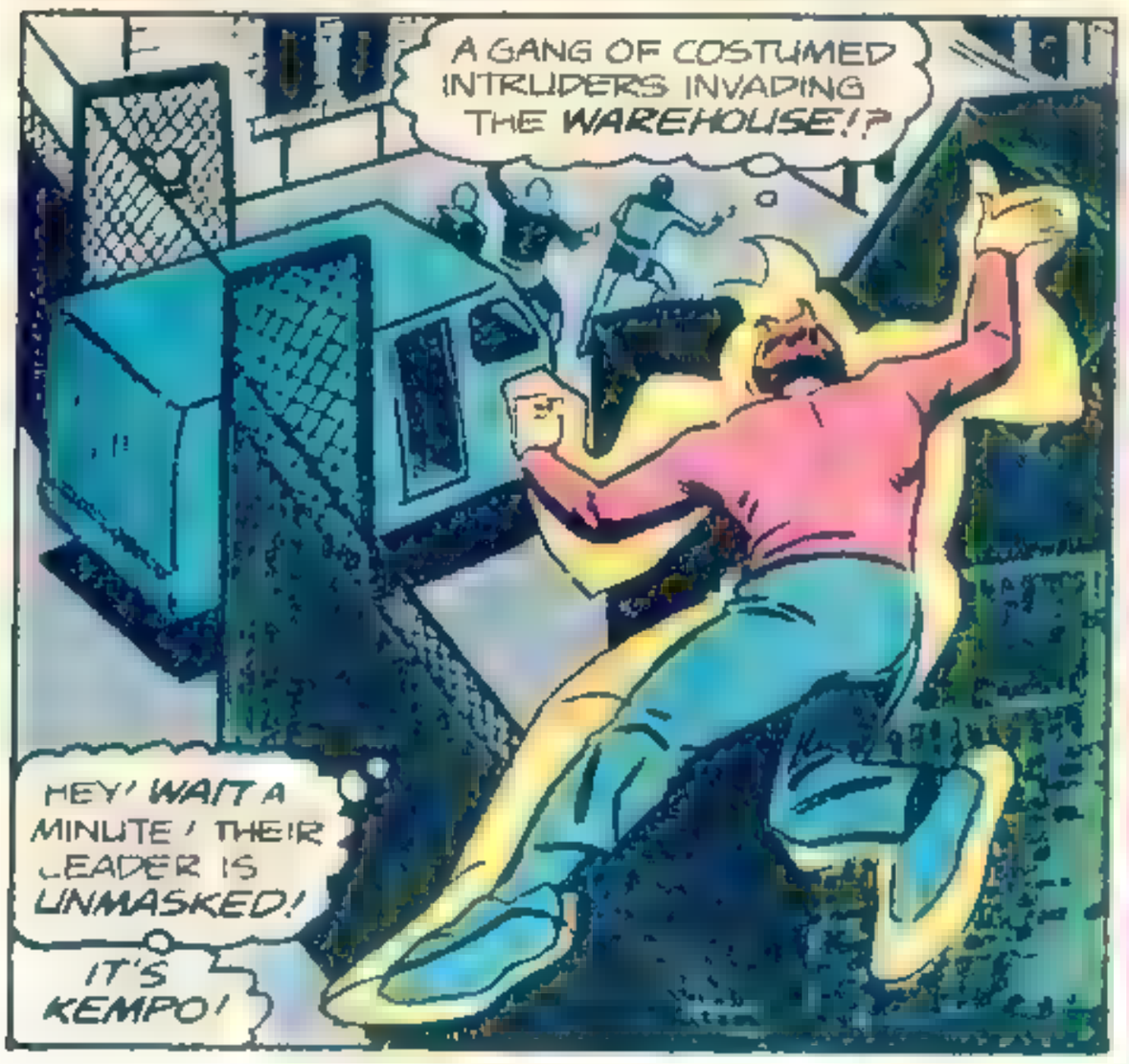




WHILE SHADE PONDERS HIS NEXT MOVE, FORM PONDERS HERS...

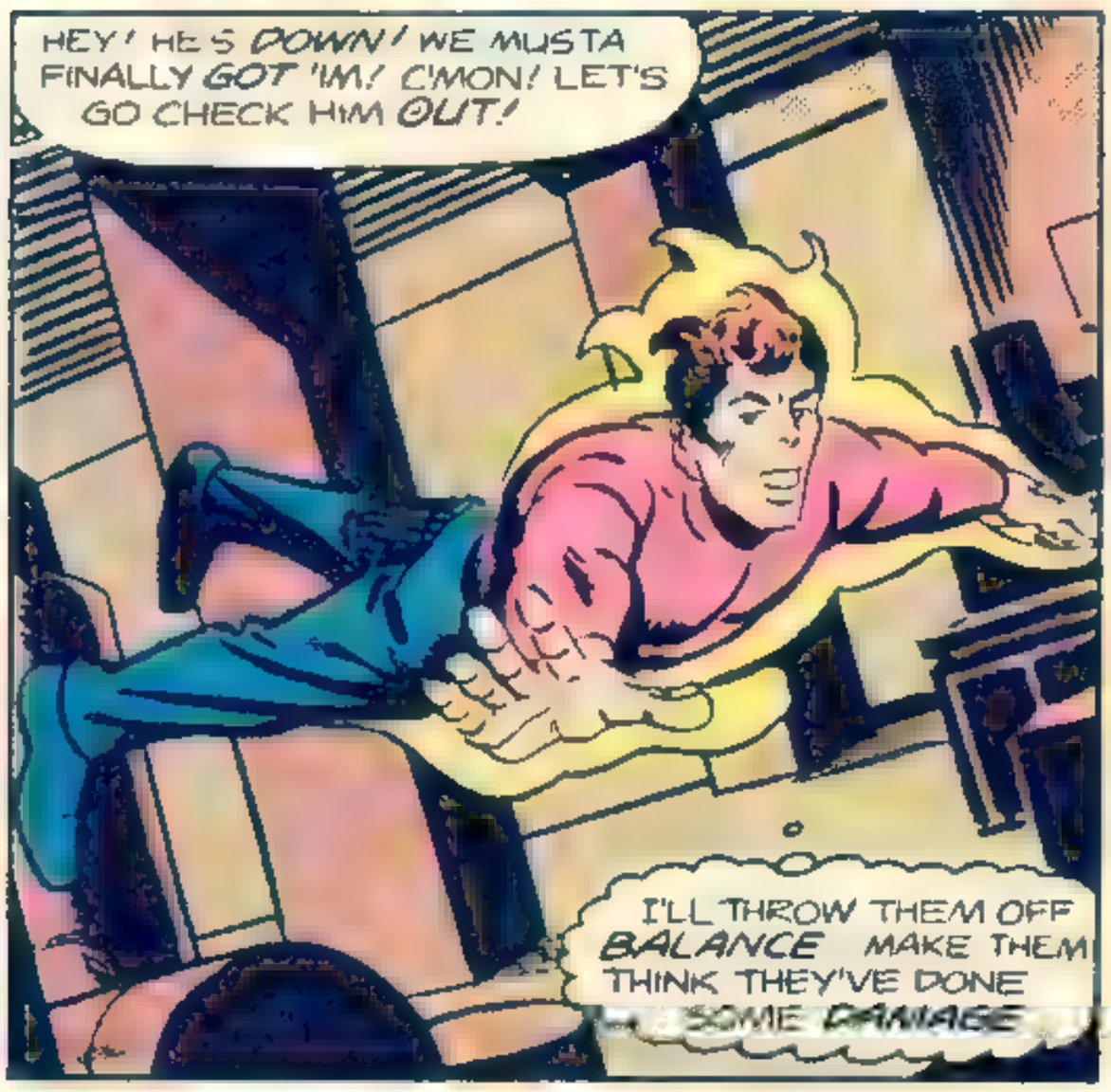


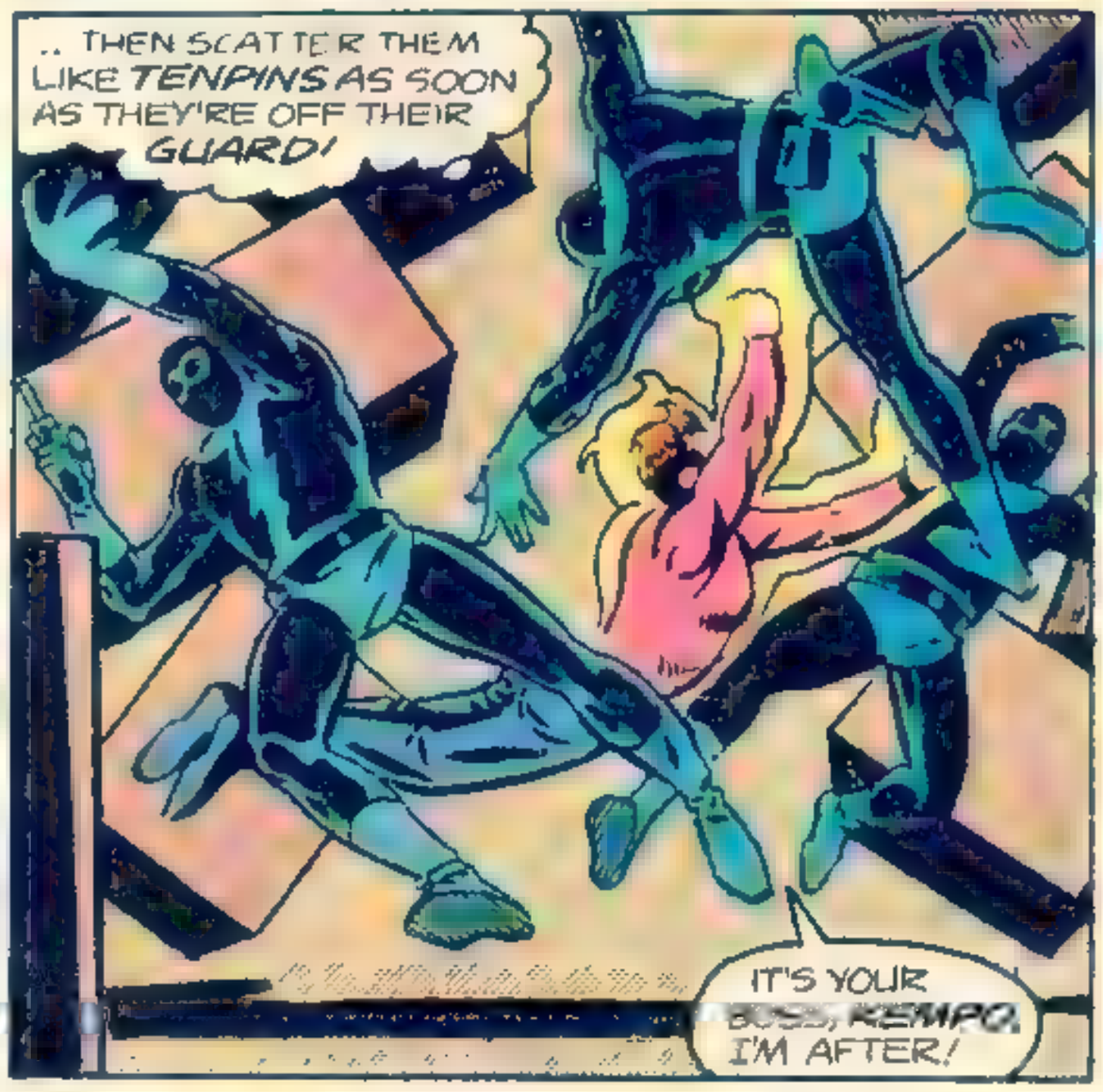
RETURNING TO KALE'S HEADQUARTERS, SHADE SEES



BLAST IT! IT IS SHADE!
HE'S GROWING ...CHANGING! FOOLS SHOOT HIM DOWN!

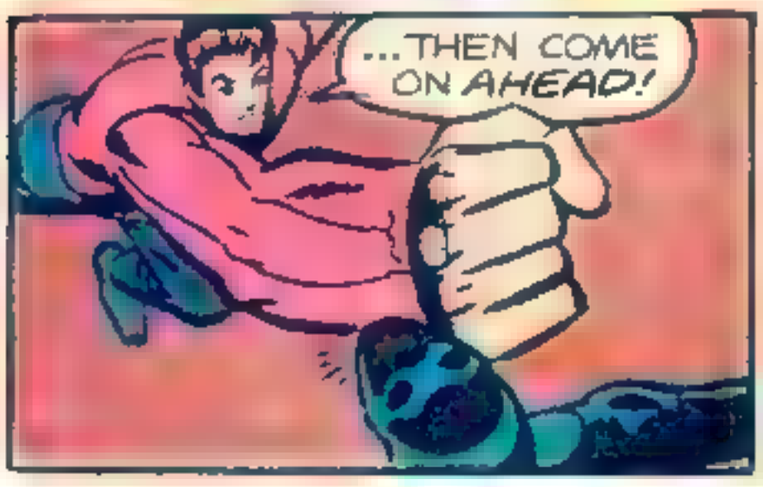
W-WE'RE HITTING HIM, KEMPO! B-BUT THE BULLETS ...THEY'RE BOUNCING OFF!
THEIR BULLETS AREN'T WOUNDING ME..
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T FEEL THEIR UNNHH! IMPACT!

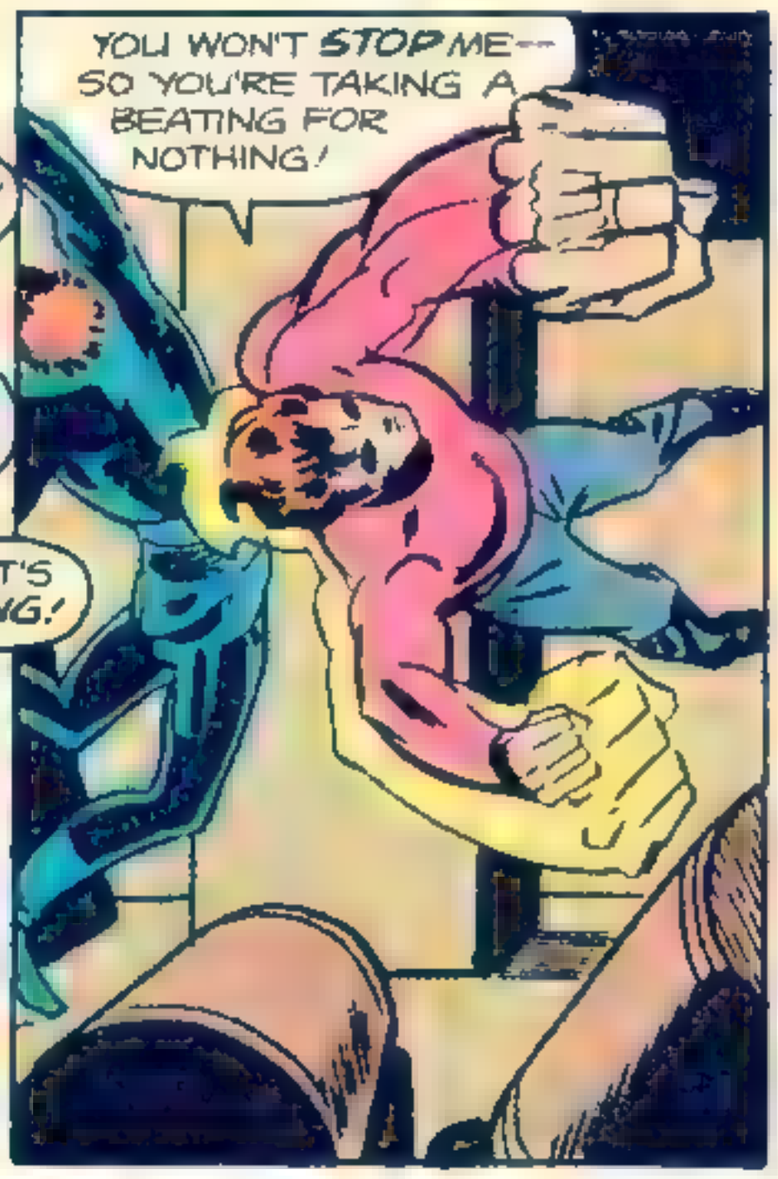

HEY! HE'S DOWN! WE MUSTA FINALLY GOT 'IM! C'MON! LET'S GO CHECK HIM OUT!
I'LL THROW THEM OFF BALANCE MAKE THEM THINK THEY'VE DONE SOME DAMAGE


.. THEN SCATTER THEM LIKE TENPINS AS SOON AS THEY'RE OFF THEIR GUARD!
IT'S YOUR BOSS, KEMPO, I'M AFTER!

BUT IF YOU
OMIGOSH! H-HIS FIST!

WANT TO MAKE IT YOUR FIGHT TOO
I-IT'S IT'S CHANGING!


...THEN COME ON AHEAD!


YOU WON'T STOP ME-- SO YOU'RE TAKING A BEATING FOR NOTHING!

HOW CAN WE FIGHT A GUY THAT GROWS A FIST LIKE A BATTERING RAM?
OOOFF
...AND A LEG LIKE AN ELEPHANT! AHHHH!

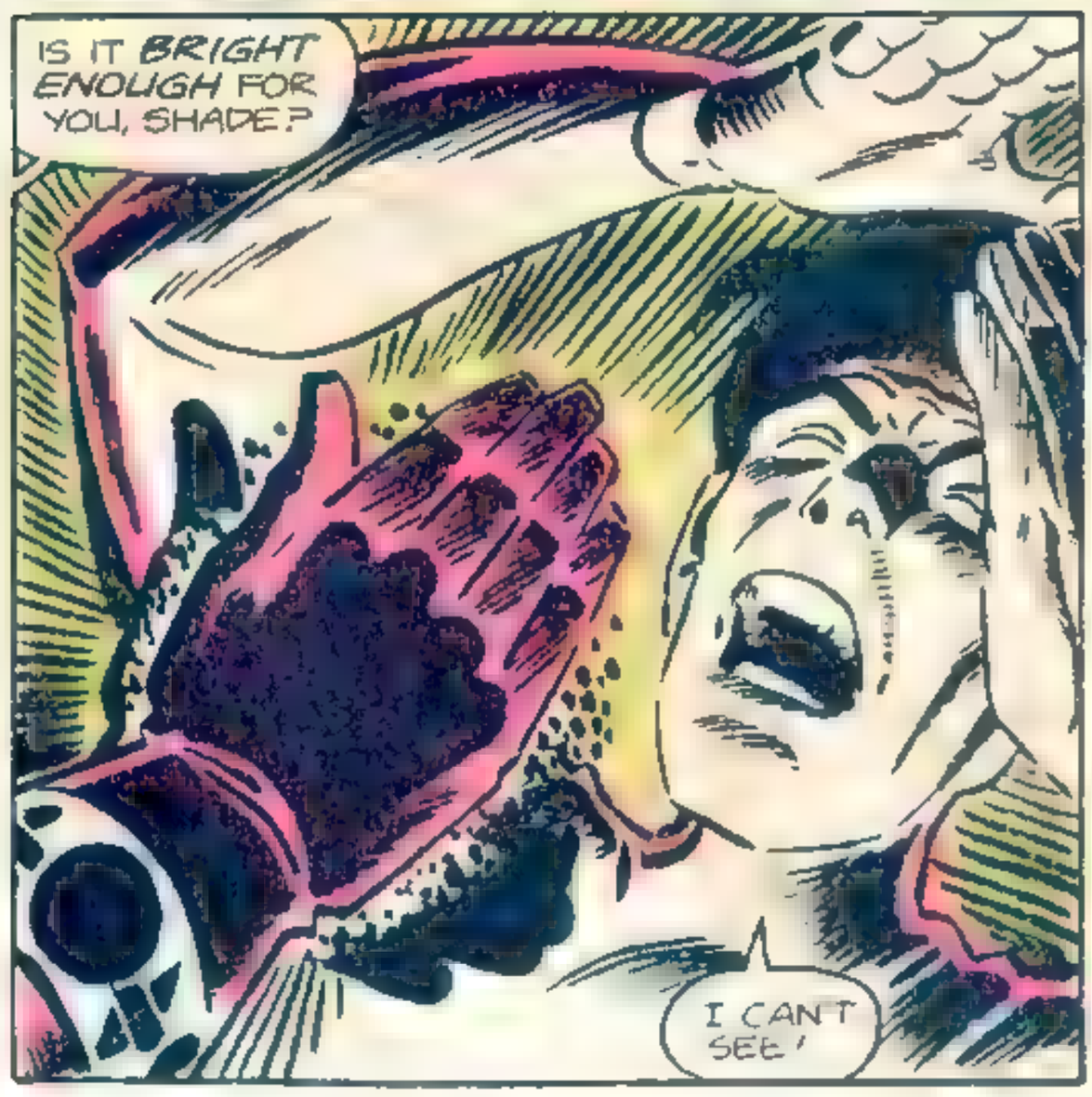
YOU WANT KEMPO, MISTER, YOU CAN HAVE HIM! I'M GETTIN' THE HELL OUTA HERE!
RUN YOU MANGY COWARDS!
ME TOO!

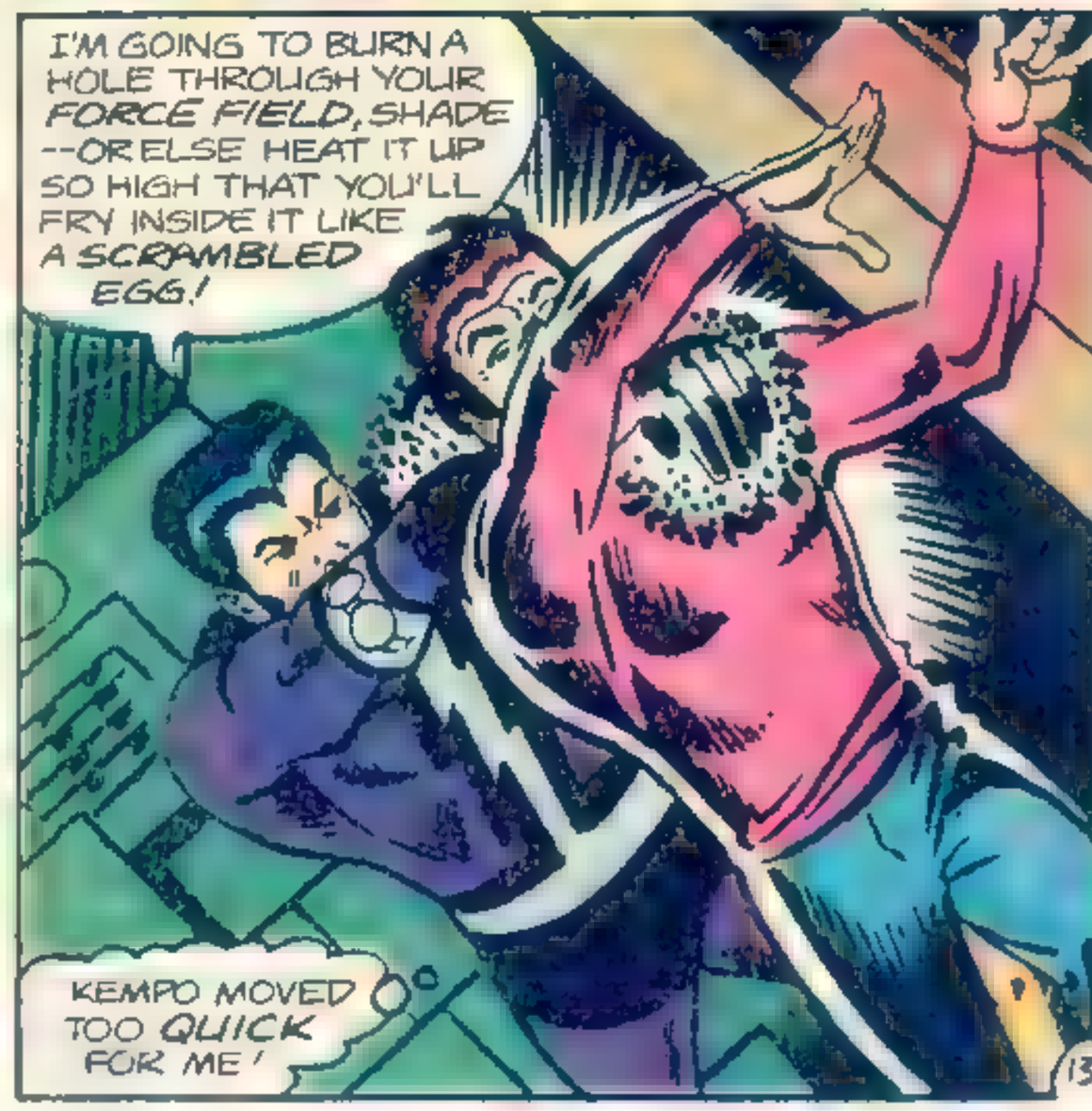
ALL RIGHT, SHADE! LET'S GET ON WITH IT! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT SOONER OR LATER WE'D MEET LIKE THIS!

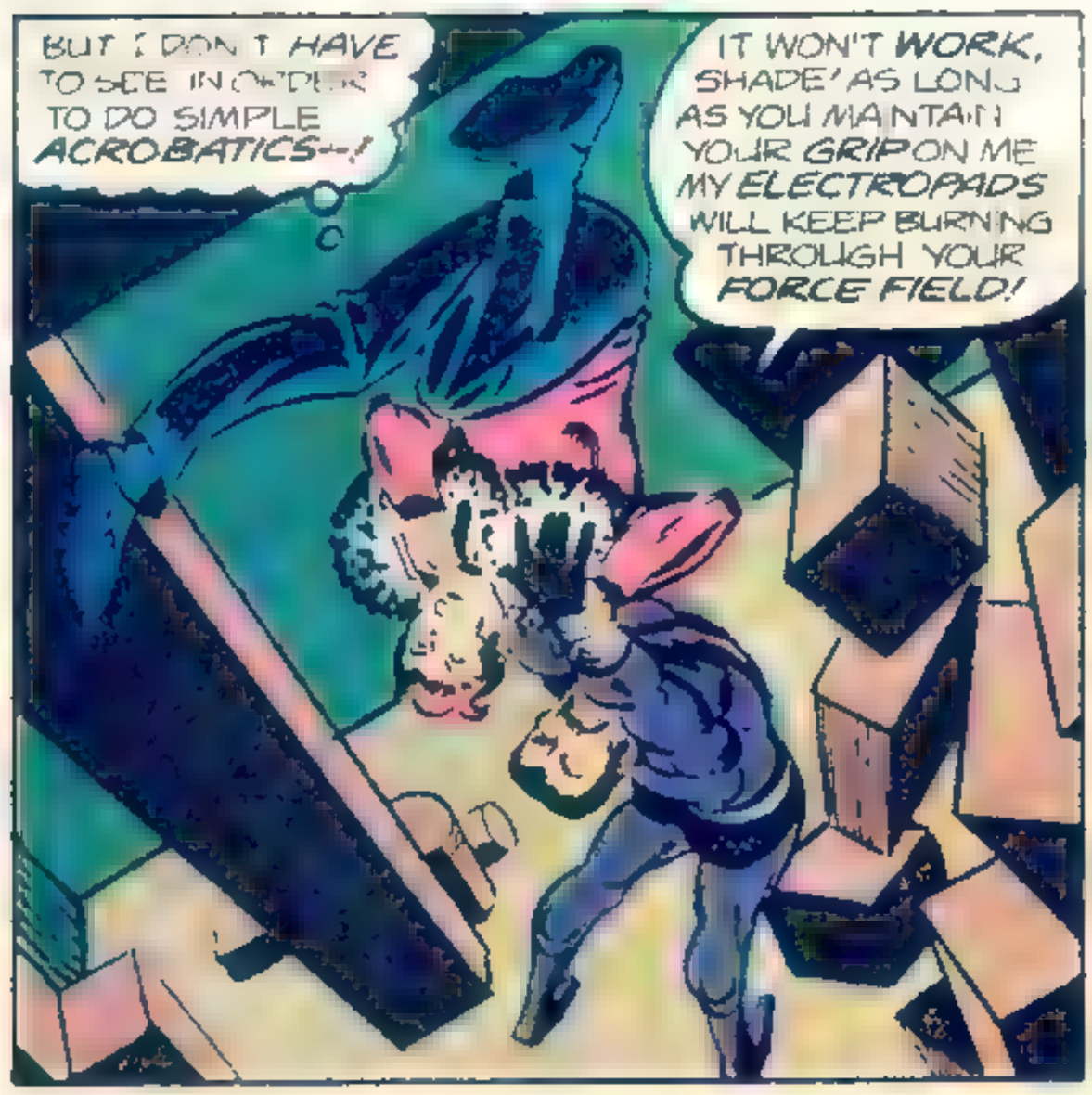
WHO PUT YOU UP TO FRAMING ME, KEMPO?
I'LL TELL YOU AS YOU'RE DYING!

REMEMBER, OLD FRIEND, I WAS ONCE YOUR SUPERIOR IN THE METAN SECRET SERVICE! I KNOW EVERY TRICK YOU KNOW, AND A FEW MORE BESIDES!
YOU KNOW THESE ELECTROPADS CAN BURN THROUGH SOLID STEEL!

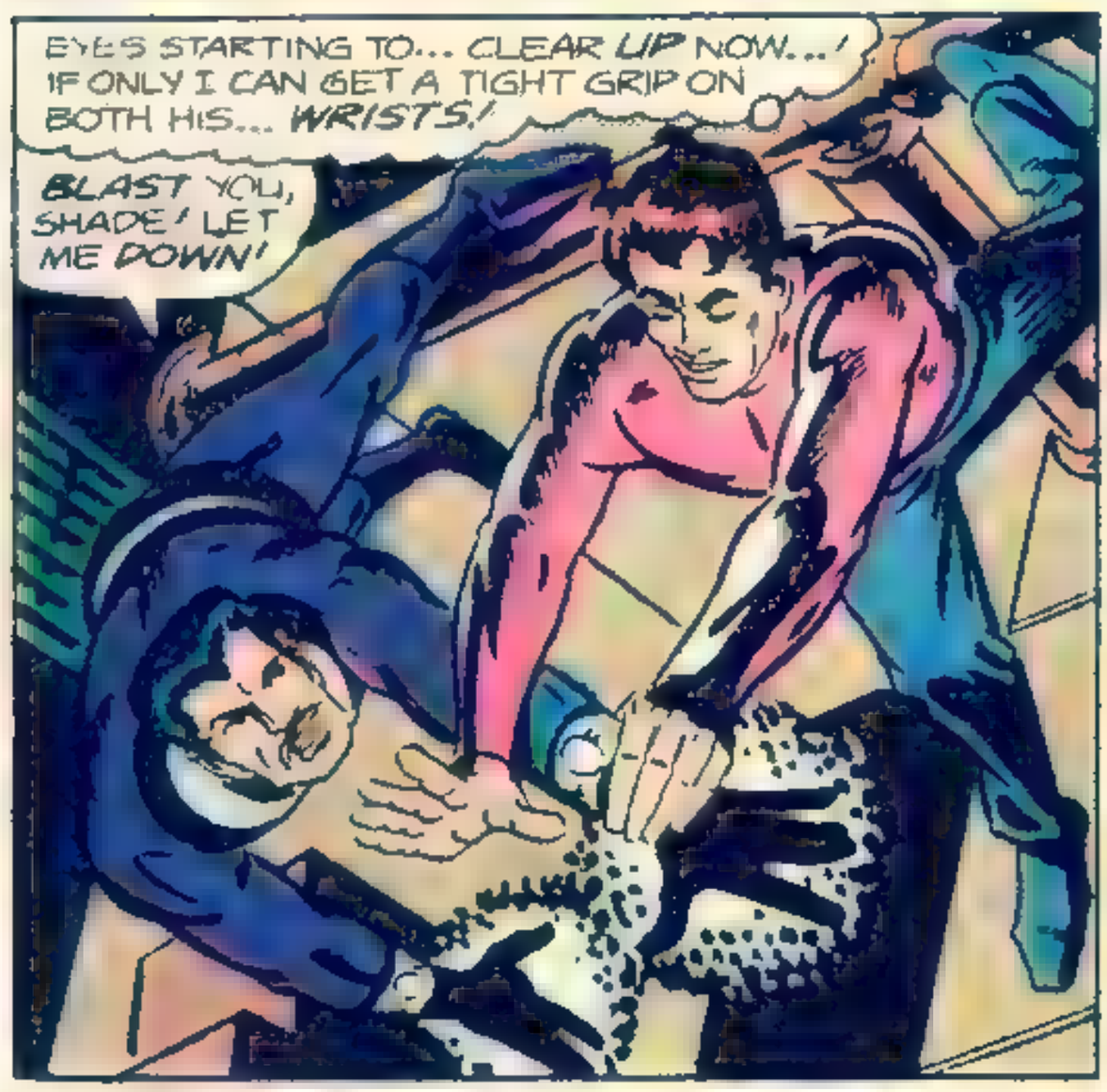
WHA-!? YOU'VE GOT A FORCE-FIELD DEVICE! BUT IT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO PROTECT YOU, SHADE! I'LL--
WHO WAS HE, KEMPO? WHO HELPED YOU RIG THE FRAME-UP?


IS IT BRIGHT ENOUGH FOR YOU, SHADE?
I CAN'T SEE!


I'M GOING TO BURN A HOLE THROUGH YOUR FORCE FIELD, SHADE --OR ELSE HEAT IT UP SO HIGH THAT YOU'LL FRY INSIDE IT LIKE A SCRAMBLED EGG!
KEMPO MOVED TOO QUICK FOR ME!


BUT I DON'T HAVE TO SEE IN ORDER TO DO SIMPLE ACROBATICS--!
IT WON'T WORK, SHADE! AS LONG AS YOU MAINTAIN YOUR GRIP ON ME MY ELECTROPADS WILL KEEP BURNING THROUGH YOUR FORCE FIELD!

I'LL CAN'T SEE! THE PAIN OF THE ELECTROPADS IS EXCRUCIATING! GOT TO BREAK THIS HOLD. TRY FOR A MORE EFFECTIVE ONE!
LET GO, YOU FOOL! BEFORE YOUR BLIND FLYING GETS US BOTH KILLED!


EYES STARTING TO... CLEAR UP NOW...! IF ONLY I CAN GET A TIGHT GRIP ON BOTH HIS... WRISTS!
BLAST YOU, SHADE! LET ME DOWN!

YOU CAN'T WIN, SHADE! EVEN IF I FAIL TO KILL YOU, YOU'LL NEVER GET ME TO TALK! NEVER!
YOU'LL TALK, ALL RIGHT!

YOU'LL TALK OR I'LL TAKE YOU INTO THE AREA OF MADNESS!
N-NO! SH-SHADE! Y-YOU WOULDN'T! N-NOT THAT!

I'LL LAUGH WHILE YOU SCREAM FOR DEATH'S RELEASE!
P-PLEASE, NO, SHADE! NOT THAT-- I-I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING!

MEANWHILE, UPSTAIRS...

GOOD! NOW I HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION I NEED IN ORDER TO ASSUME LEADERSHIP OF--

STOP, FORM! I'M A METAN N-AGENT!

EITHER AGREE TO BE NEUTRALIZED AND RETURNED TO META, OR ELSE FACE IMMEDIATE NEGATION!

YOU SPEAK RASHLY, N-AGENT, FOR ONE WHO IS ABOUT TO DIE A GHASTLY DEATH!

AND YOU SPEAK BOASTFULLY, VILLAINESS, FOR ONE WHO FIGHTS SO CLUMSILY!

LIMMPHH! YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT A THOUSANDFOLD, YOU FOOL

...AS YOU AGONIZINGLY GASP YOUR LIFE AWAY INSIDE MY WEB OF SUFFOCATING VAPORS!

SH-SHE'S GOT ME C-CAN'T CHOKE BREAK OUT!

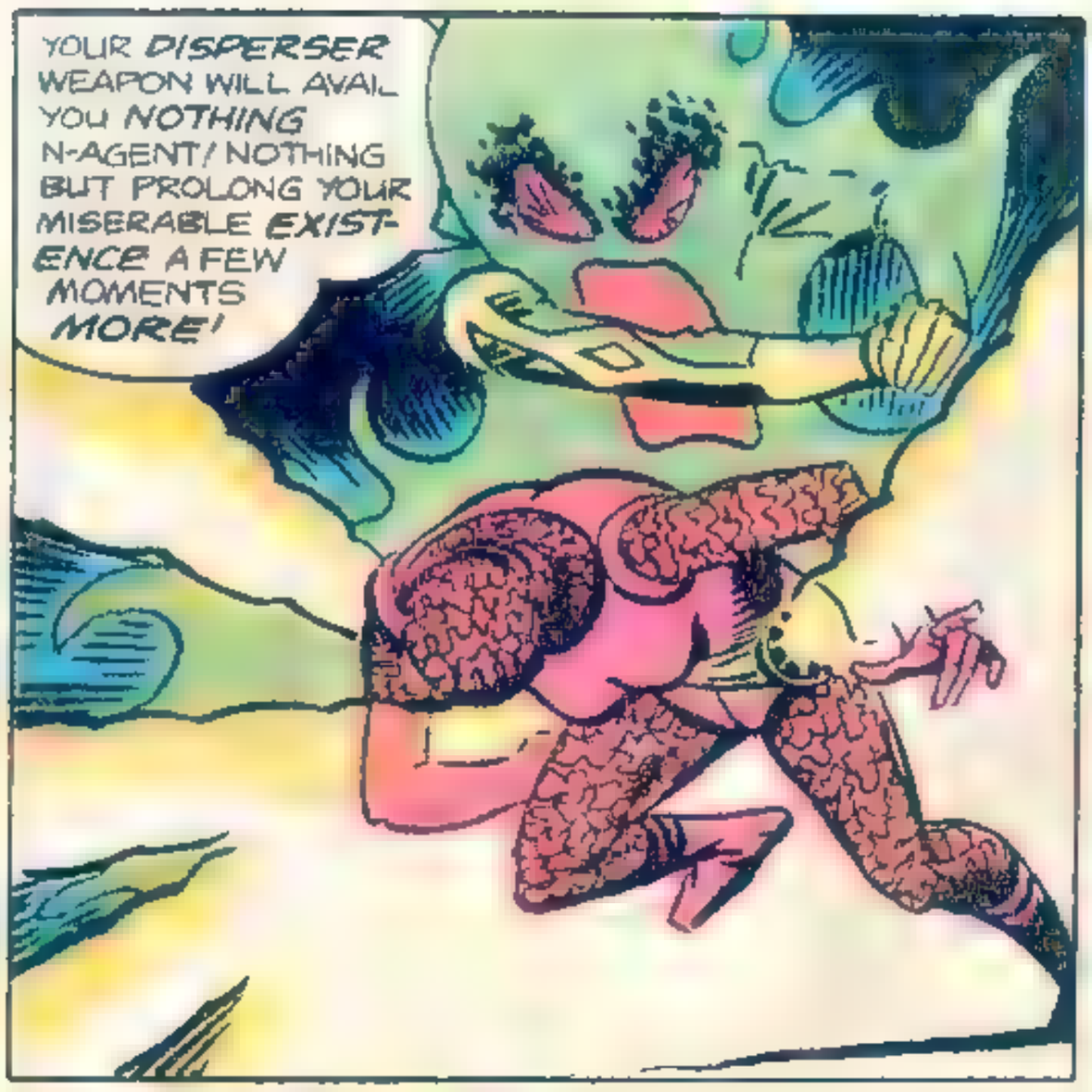
FINDING IT HARD TO BREATHE, EH, N-AGENT? PERHAPS THIS WILL TEACH YOU THAT FORM IS NOT TO BE DEFIED!

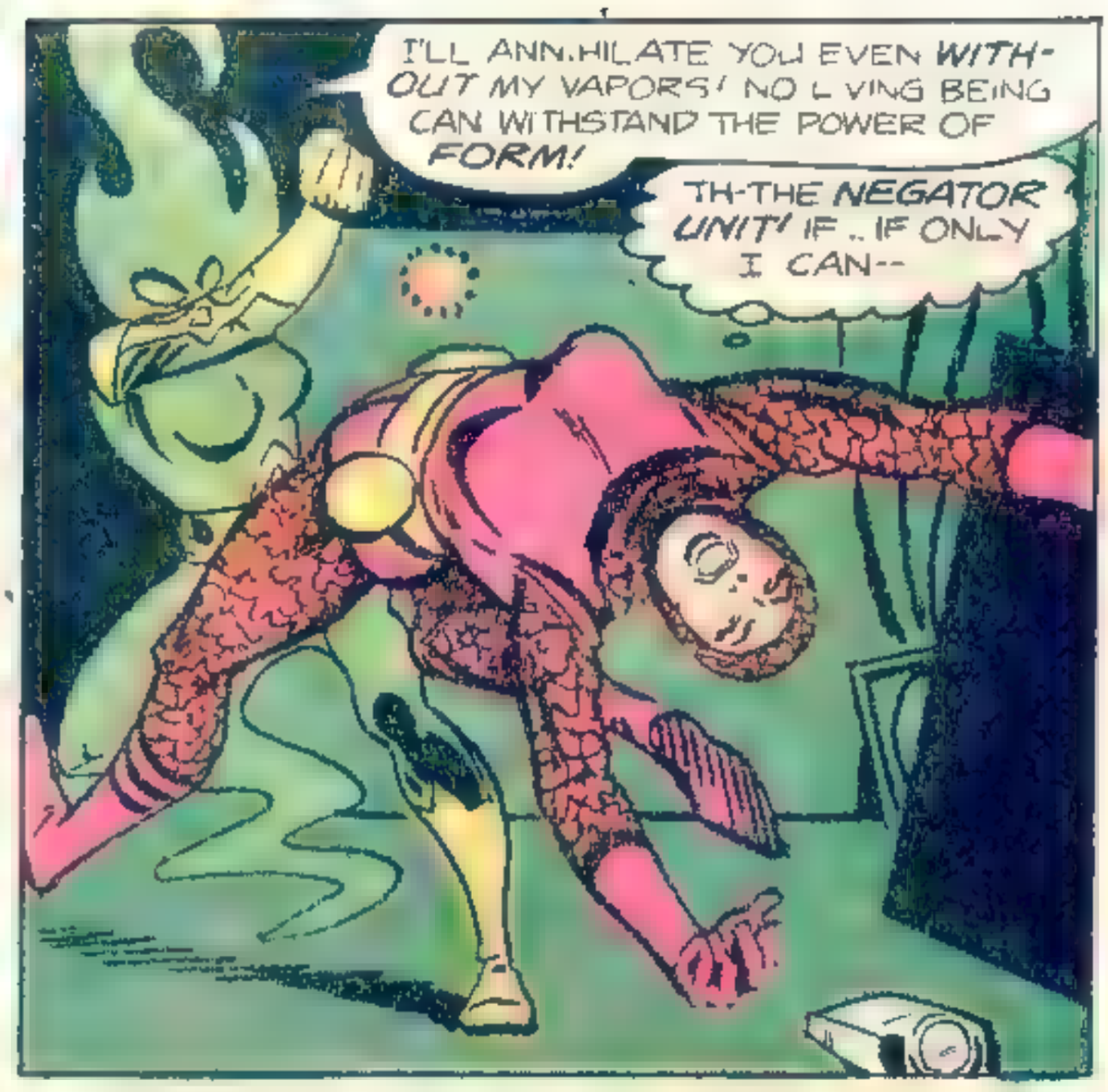
G-GETTING CHOKE DIZZY! BLACKING... OUT...! GOT TO USE MY WEAPON BEFORE...

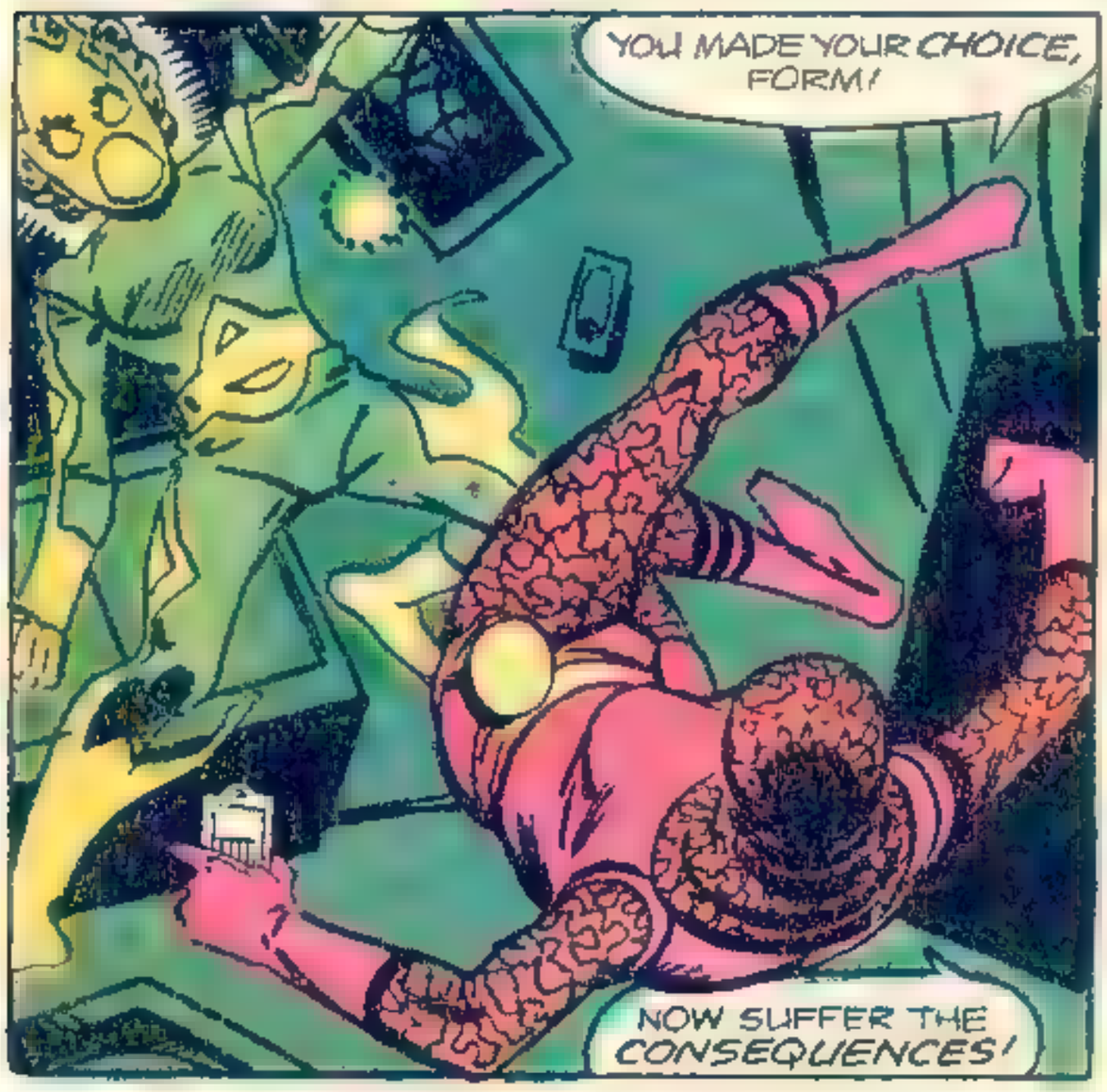
AAAGGGHH!! DISPERSER RAYS--!!

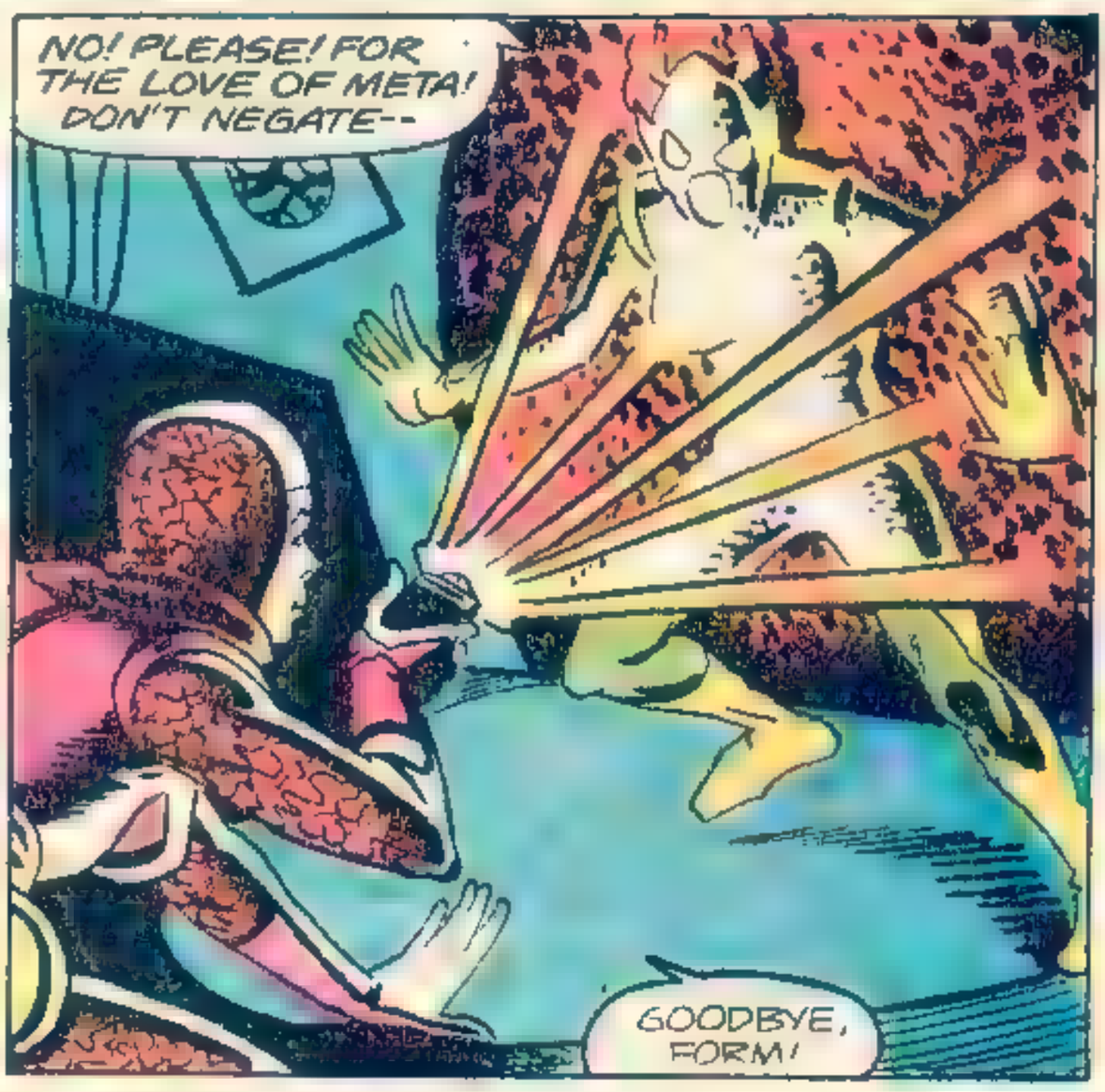
WHAT'S THE MATTER, FORM?

DIDN'T YOU EXPECT ME TO BE PREPARED?









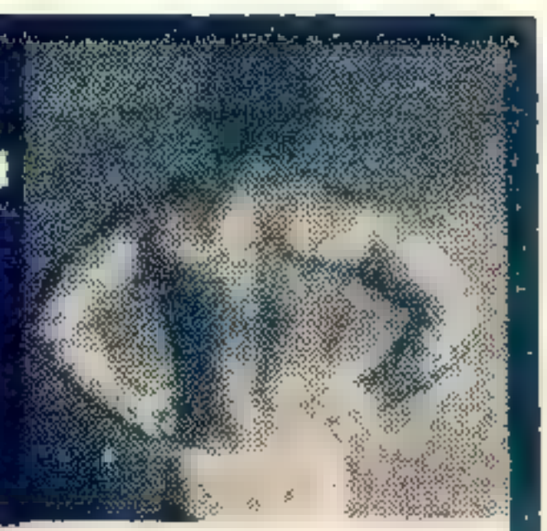
"GOODBYE .

... FOREVER !"

EVEN AS THE TREACHEROUS FORM DISSOLVES INTO ATOMS, SHADE IS DOWNSTAIRS, INTERROGATING KEMPO.

CONCLUDED ON 3rd PAGE FOLLOWING

POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST!!



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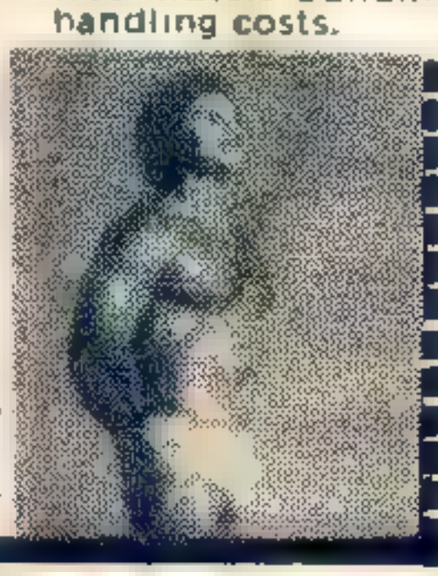
I have gained 14 pounds in only 2 weeks. My arms and chest are much bigger.
Doug Elliott

"LOST 8" OFF HIS WAIST"
I knocked 8" off my waist and have lost 20 pounds of fat. I'm twice as strong.
R. Bonham

"GIRLS NOTICE HIM"
My arms are now 19", chest 51", thighs 26", and waist 32". All the girls notice me now.
T. B. Pinsoneault



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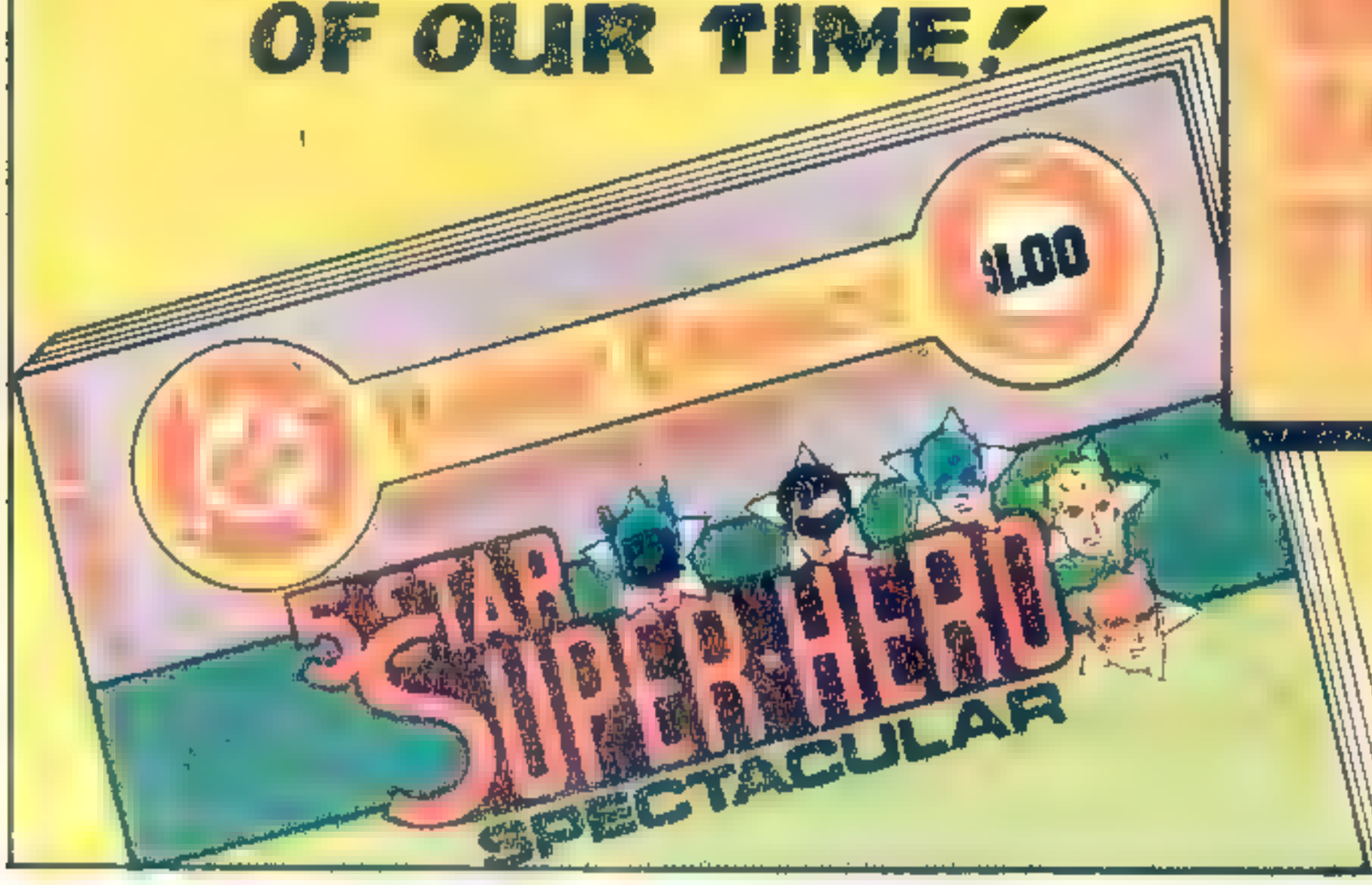

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2. Enter as often as you like, but be sure each entry is complete with all the necessary letters and each entry is mailed individually.
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4. All entries must be received by DC Comics before 5 PM, July 15, 1977. All entries will be placed in a drum and two first prize envelopes will be selected on July 18, 1977 on the set of the Superman movie. First prize winners will be notified by telegram. Second prize drawings will be held during the week of July 18, 1977; winners will be notified by mail.
5. Employees of Warner Communications Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and DC Comics' free-lance artists, writers, colorists, and letterers, any of the participating wholesalers of Independent News Company, and the immediate families of those employees are specifically excluded from this contest.
6. There are no age or racial restrictions; males and females are equally eligible to win. First prize winners must be available for work on the Superman Movie set during a specific date and time in late summer of 1977. During this period, the first prize winners and each winner's companion will be taken on a personal tour of DC Comics in New York. If the first prize winner is a minor, said winner's companion must be a parent or guardian of the winner.
7. Second prize winners will receive a card in the mail offering the various prizes, from which they will indicate their preferences. These prizes will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis; and all second prize winners will receive one of their noted preferences.
8. Contest void where prohibited by law and subject to all applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

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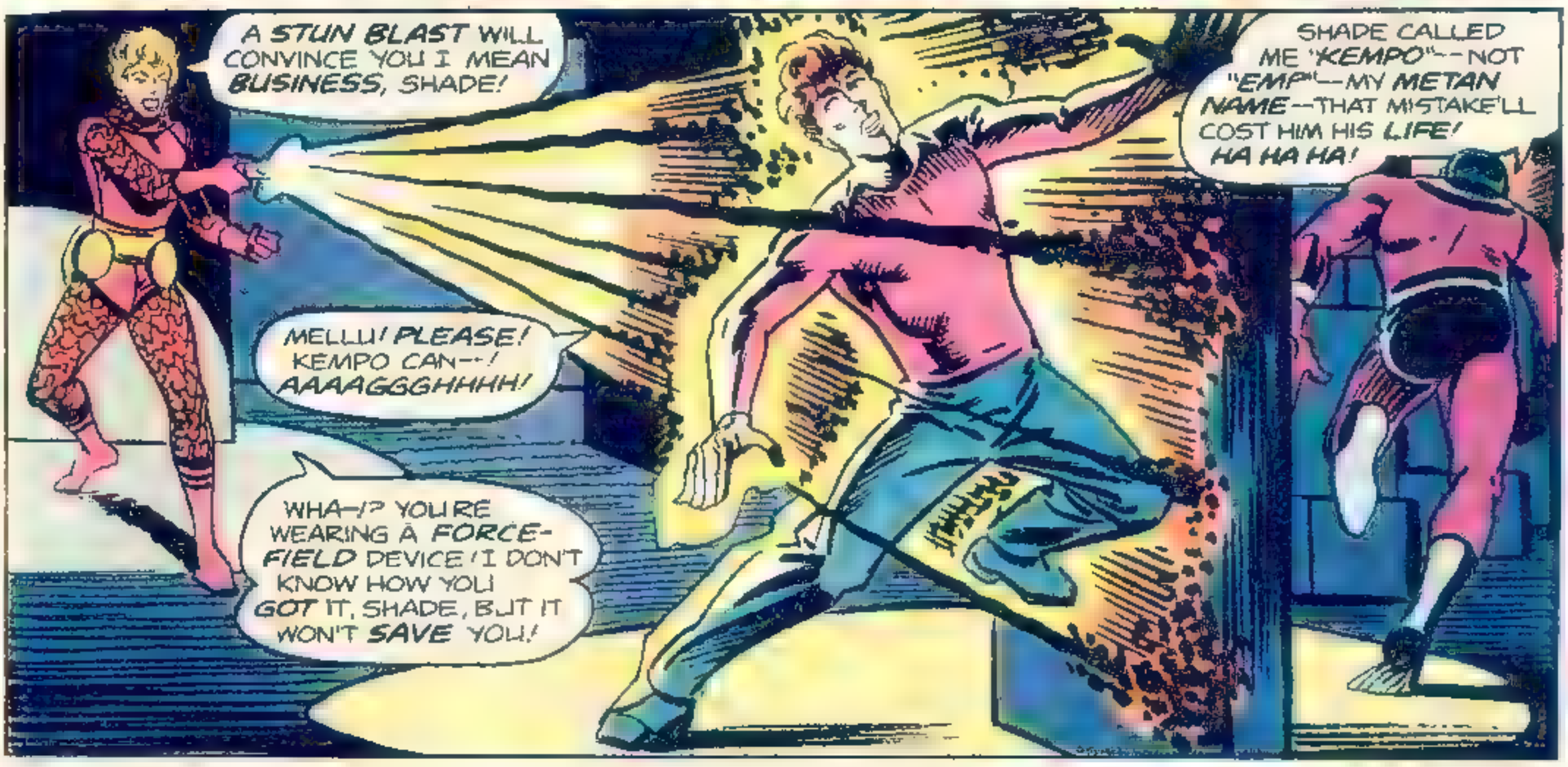

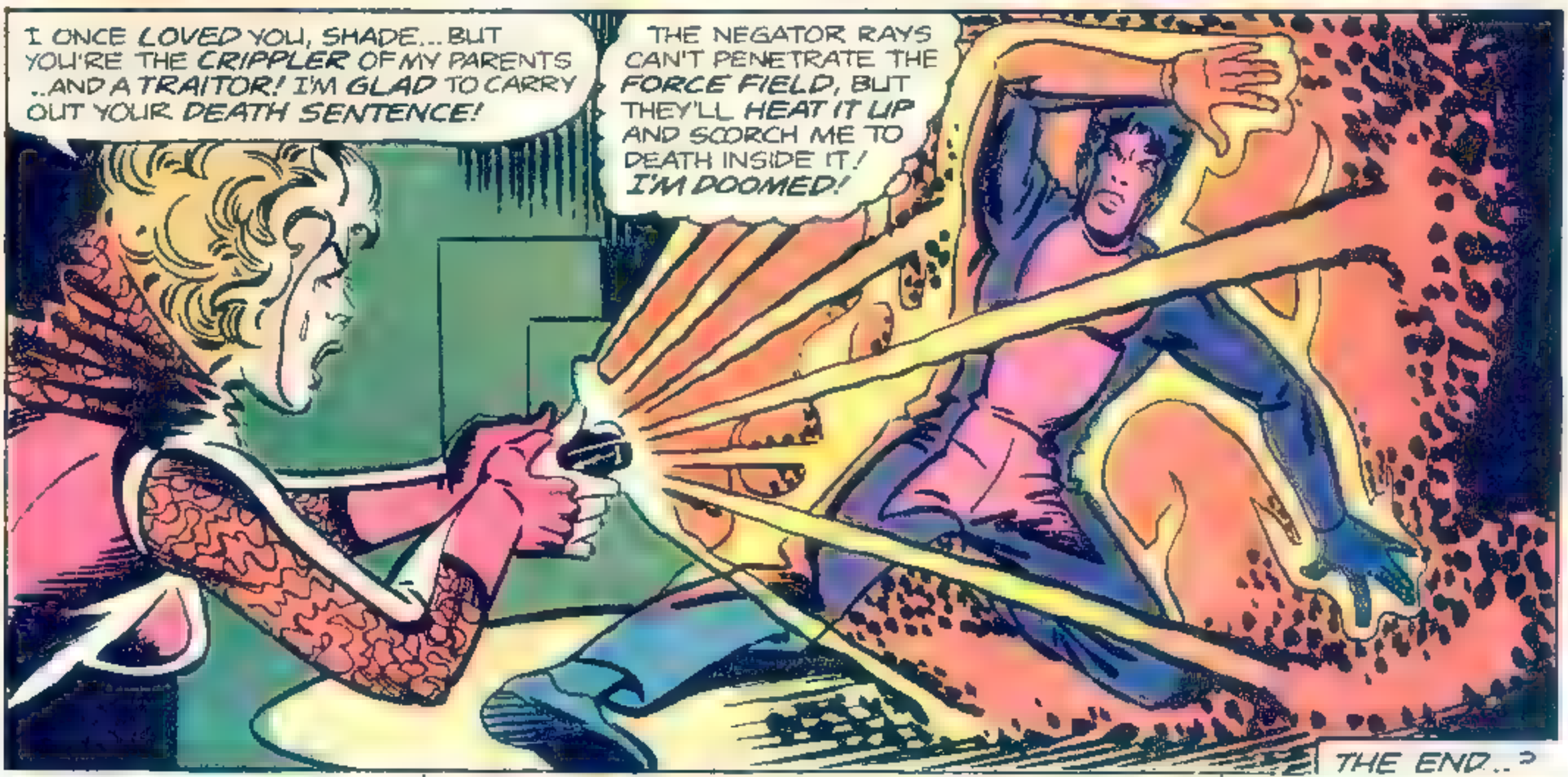

THE END..?

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE FIRST WEEK IN JULY

mysterious messages to the META-ZONE

c/o DC COMICS, INC., 75 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

Well, here we are with the second issue of *SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN*, the most astounding and unusual offing from *DC* this year! We're preparing to start the first working stages of #3 and we're not even sure how you will respond to the first issue. As we've noted many times before, the work we do on each issue of your favorite comics must be done many months in advance. We're usually well on the way to a fourth issue of a new mag before any of you have even picked up the first one! At this writing (mid-January, 1977), there are still 7 weeks before *SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN* #1 will hit the newsstands of the nation.

Although we've billed *SHADE* as a Steve Ditko project (and it *IS*—Steve does the plotting, the penciling and the inking, not to mention the covers and some extensive color work that we'll speak about later), there are many other talented hands that have helped make *SHADE* the comic you hold in your hands right now!

Firstly, let's thank *MIKE FLEISHER*, our dialogue man who reads over Steve's carefully prepared plots and puts the actual words into the mouths of *SHADE, MELLU, WIZOR* and the rest. Mike is well known for the two Western features he does for *DC (JONAH HEX* and *WEIRD WESTERN TALES' SCALPHUNTER)* as well as for his massive comic textbooks, *THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF COMICS BOOK HEROES* (Vol. 1, *BATMAN* and Vol. 2, *WONDER WOMAN* published by Macmillian Publishing Co., Inc., 866 3rd Ave., NYC 10022.) We think Mike's doing a top-notch job of enhancing Steve's drawings to the utmost!

Secondly, let's give a tip of the editorial hat to *LIZ BERUBE*, our First Lady of Color who does, naturally, the colors! Although Mr. Ditko hands in many pages of color overlays for each issue of *SHADE*, Ms.Berube is the one who actually applies the colors and adds her own distinctive touch to each and every scene. We're being very honest when we say that her work on *SHADE* #1 was the best we've ever seen. We hope you agreed.

Next, and we're really going behind the scenes for some of these, we'd like to thanks some of the people in our production department. First, a big "thanks" to *JOE LETTERESE*, who helped correct the book and put the final touches on before it was ready to go off to the printers. And to *BILL MORSE*, who lettered *SHADE* #1 before for its debut into comics' history, a special pat on the back for the excellent design for this page's letter-head logo! Thanks, Bill!

* * * * *

As is our usual practice, we sent a few advance proofs of *SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN* out to various fans and fanzines for review and comment. One of these views was published in the fanzine *TALES FROM TEXAS*, published by Bob Wayne, The Dallas Area Science Fiction Fantasy Society, 2515 Perkins Street, Fort Worth, Texas. The review appears next:

SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN is Steve Ditko's latest brainchild. The entire comic is a Ditko project except for the dialogue by Mike Fleisher.

SHADE escapes from being a pure good vs. evil battle however, and by doing so, escapes some of the problems of (Ditko's fanzine feature) **MR. A** (and (Fleisher's) **THE SPECTRE.**

SHADE is some of the best Ditko art in years. It far surpasses any Ditko inking Ditko work that has appeared at Charlton or Atlas

However, I have reservations about **SHADE**. First, although it's a first issue, there is a line somewhere at which extemporaneous words and thoughts by characters in a comic book providing exposition can become **too** much, distracting from the flow of the story. **SHADE** suffers from ,this problem; I would have perferred more captions, and a heavier reliance on the visuals. For example, when SHADE goes into his changing stunt: In one panel, SHADE thinks that his vest's force field will distort the perceptions of himself based on the mental state of the viewer. In the next panel, he is distorted, One of the bad guys speaks with fear. It is obvious from this that "Their shock and fear are combining with the pulsations to make me (**SHADE**) appear weird . distorted . . !" But thinks the previous thought just to drive the point home to the reader.

SHADE may also suffer from lack of continuity with the DC universe. How the Meta-Zone was kept secret from **SUPERMAN** and the world-hopping **JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA** is a problem . . . since Meta-Agents operate on Earth. Maybe they'll stumble through the Meta-Zone during a **JLA/JSA** team-up I'm sure they won't desire to hang around the neighborhood for long. But if **SHADE** can't break a few clitches of his own, they might have to come in and save the world. **SHADE THE CHANGING MAN**, recommended, with a few reservations.

Well, while we agree with *TALES FROM TEXAS* (in some instances—we felt the first issue was a bit copy-heavy too; all in an effort to make sure the new and unusual concepts of Mr. Ditko were clear to *EVERYONE*), we must disagree with you on the "continuity problem." The various "zones" mentioned in *SHADE*'s adventures have nothing to do with any kind of dimensional space we've talked about in other books. The city the adventures take place on has not been named! It is quite possible that the *JLA* has no knowledge of the goings-on in the realm of *SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN*. The "world-hopping" members can't be *EVERYWHERE*! And, for the foreseeable future, you won't see them with *SHADE*!—*JCH*

THE GREAT SUPERMAN MOVIE CONTEST ☆ C ☆

DC Publishorial

What Does 'Showcase' MEAN, Anyway?

Showcase. Now what exactly does "showcase" mean? I confess that I've never been sure. However, I've never felt sufficiently unsure to run to the dictionary to look it up.

Until last night. According to last night's dictionary definition, "showcase" means a locked glass box in which one displays something of great value, distinguishing it from other items as, perhaps, in an exhibition. Examples readily spring to mind—like the glittering, cursed Hope Diamond set off from a raft of lesser stones by a shrine of glass.

But what, after all these years of contented ambiguity, hied me to a dictionary for that definition? It started in my office.

"Let's revive *Showcase*" suggested managing editor Joe O.

"The concept or the title?" I asked.

"Both," said Joe.

"Well, the concept's great," I agreed, "but the title, if you ask me, is dumb. What does it mean? Do *you* know what it means? It's one of those antiquated words that sounds familiar but nobody actually understands."

Paul Levitz, also in my office, interjected with the taxed patience that only a 20-year-old (him) can have for someone nine years his senior (me).

"You've got to remember the history of *Showcase*. Some of our best characters were launched in it, revived in it, or given that special extra boost into their own books: Green Lantern, Adam Strange, Flash, Aquaman, The Atom, Metal Men, Teen Titans, The Creeper, Bat Lash, Enemy Ace, even Lois Lane," said Paul, rattling off just a few. For a full chronological accounting of *Showcase* from its inception twenty-one years ago, I was referred to Jack C. Harris' article in the January 1976 edition of *Amazing World*.

It was becoming clear to me that if the word "showcase" had little meaning in these present days, the title *Showcase* stirred instant respect and enthusiasm in a comic reader's heart. As a title, *Showcase* was synonymous with creativity, experimentation, energy, and new ideas.

Any title that suggests so many positive things belongs on our roster of comic books. Especially since the new DC is committed to every one of those concepts that *Showcase* represents. So just as *Showcase* took the Golden Age Flash and translated him into the idiom of the times, we are taking the classic *Showcase* of old and transforming it to fit our current needs.

Once again, each issue of *Showcase* will be a vehicle for some of our liveliest and most daring efforts. Our plans are to devote three consecutive *Showcase* issues to one character or theme so that artist, writer, editor, and reader all have a chance to watch a concept grow. Needless to say, we'll depend heavily on you for feedback. If you make enough noise, your favorite *Showcase* trilogy might well become an ongoing book.

Showcase debuts this month with "Doom Patrol." This series is both a continuation of the original and something entirely new, exciting and different—courtesy of writer Paul Kupperberg and artist Joe Staton. There will be, as I mentioned, three issues, each one strongly connected to the next. After that . . . well, that's the fun of *Showcase*—who knows what to expect?

About that dictionary definition of "showcase"—You know, old-fashioned as it is, it actually applies. *Showcase* will not arrive in a plain glass wrapper. But it does contain something so valuable that we've decided to put it in a separate compartment that stands out from the rest of our comic line.

That old *Showcase* magic is back. The fun begins May 31st.

All the best—

Jenette

In Memorium

It is with deep regret that DC Comics announces the passing of three giants of the comic book field: artists Bob Brown and John Rosenberger, and writer Edmond Hamilton.

Edmond Hamilton passed away February 1st. He is primarily known for his work as a pioneer science-fiction writer, having sold his first story in 1926 (to *Weird Tales*). "The Dean of the Science-Fiction Writers," as his good friend DC Editor Julius Schwartz referred to him, Ed was popularly known for his heroic "space opera" stories; he created the oft-reprinted *Captain Future* pulp novels.

Ed was a writer for DC Comics from 1945 to 1966, starting out on *Batman* and moving on to the various *Superman* family characters. In mid-1962, Ed started *The Legion of Super-Heroes* series in *Adventure Comics*, an assignment he maintained through 1966. Ed was also the author of numerous science-fiction stories for *Strange Adventures* and *Mystery in Space*.

Bob Brown passed away January 29. Bob came to DC in 1950, working on such features as *The Vigilante*, *The Challengers of the Unknown*, *Space Ranger* and *Tomahawk*, although he was perhaps best known for his work on the *Batman* and *Superboy* comics. After a brief mid-seventies stay over at Marvel Comics, where he drew *Daredevil*, *The Avengers* and *Warlock*, Bob returned to DC to draw *Wonder Woman* and *Supergirl*. Unfortunately, Bob only drew one story of each character before his death.

John Rosenberger passed away January 23. His career stretched through four decades and covered nearly every major comic book publisher. At DC Comics, John drew a number of features, including *Superman*, *Wonder Woman*, *Supergirl*, *Jimmy Olsen*, *Tales of the Bizarro World* and *Zatanna*. John most recently assisted on a number of King Features newspaper comic strips.

The contributions these gentlemen made to the comic book world were substantial. They will be missed for a long, long time.

—Mike Gold

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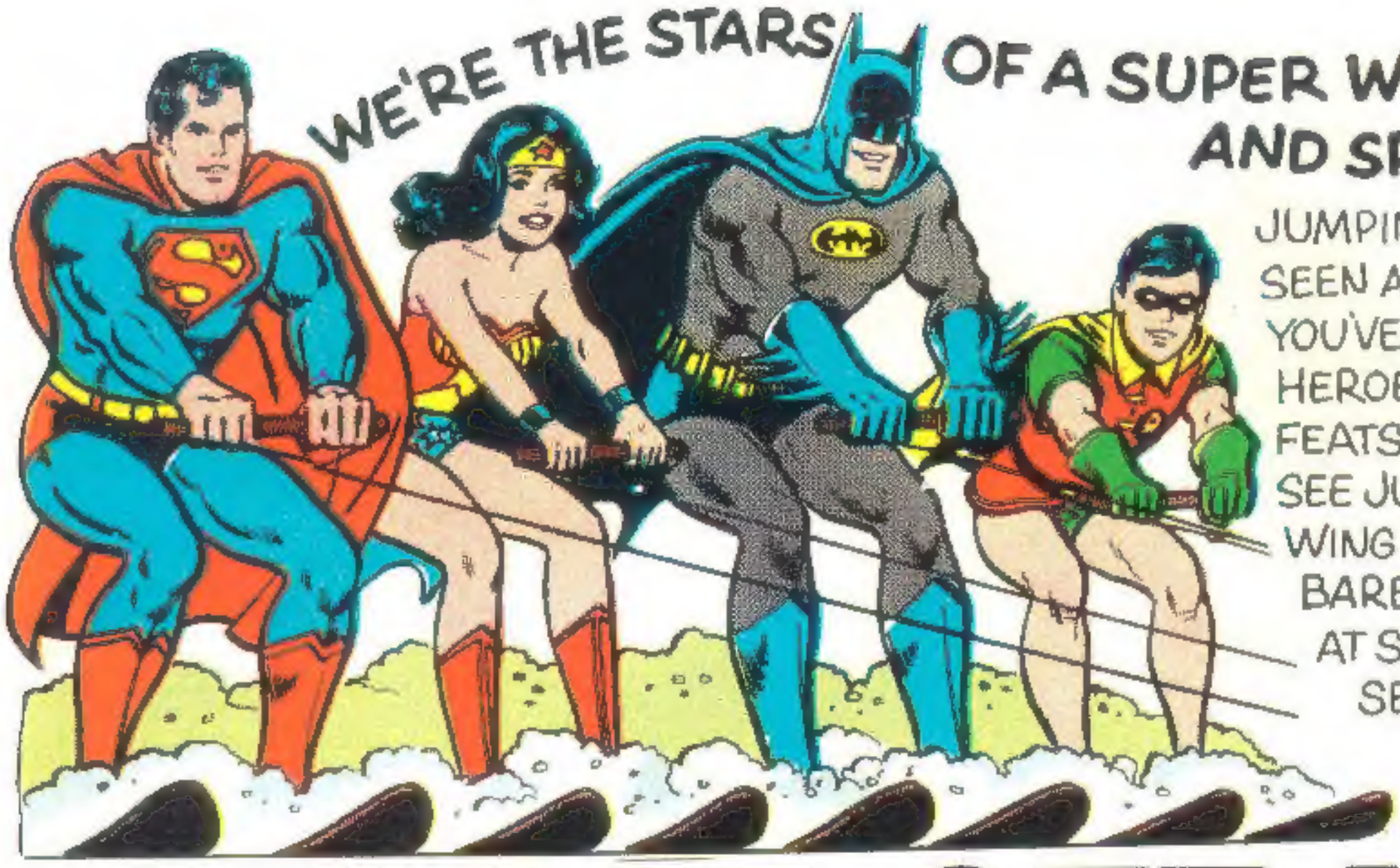

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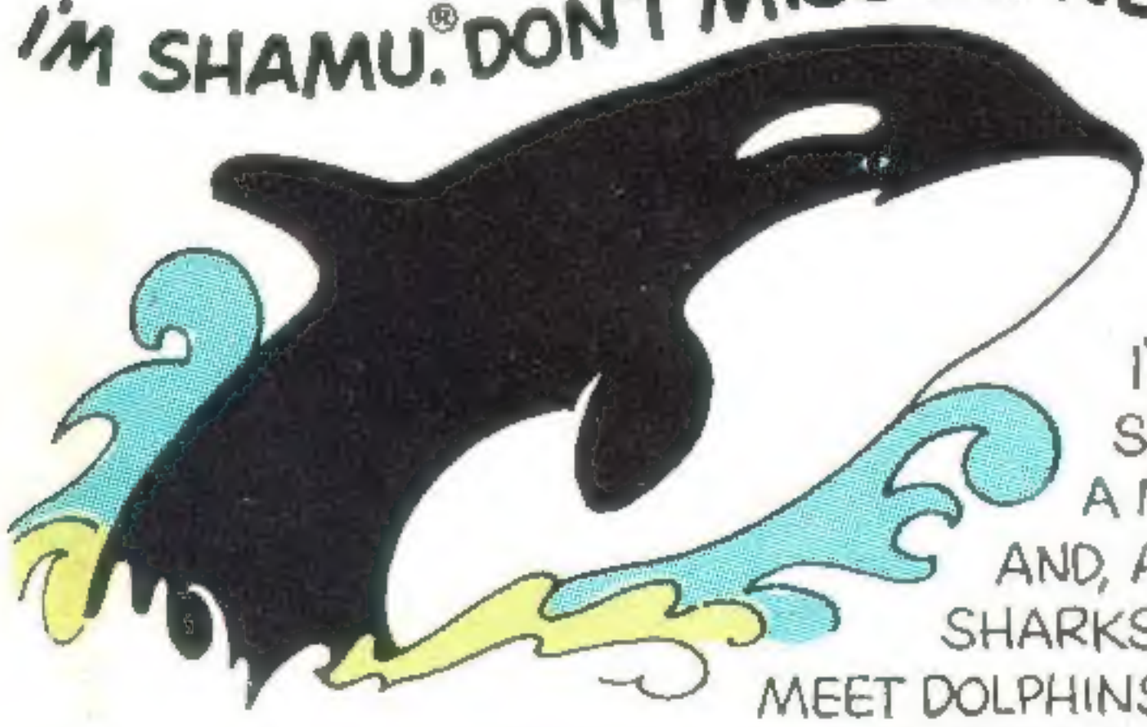

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